うみねこのなく頃に散~Episode5:End of the golden witch~

WELL, I'VE OPENED THE TRIAL NOW WE CAN JUST LEISURELY WATCH THE SHOW
PROMOTER, BEGIN!
MISTER GOAT, COULD YOU BRING ME SOME MORE JUICE?
AND SOME POPCORN FOR ME
YES, YOU SAID THAT THE DEVILS' THEATER SHOULD COME WITH POPCORN AND SPECULATIONS, RIGHT?
I'M EXCITED.
Black tea only, mustard miss please.
One for me too
ERIKA, BEGIN. I'M GETTING BORED.

FURUDO ERIKA WILL BE THE PROSECUTOR.
YES, MY MASTER! AS YOU SAY!
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
LET ME GO!
ス:

うみねこのなく頃に

Episode 5 : End of the golden witch

CHAPTER 21. DIFFERENT TRUTH

原作・監修：竜騎士07
作画：秋タカ

©竜騎士07/07th Expansion

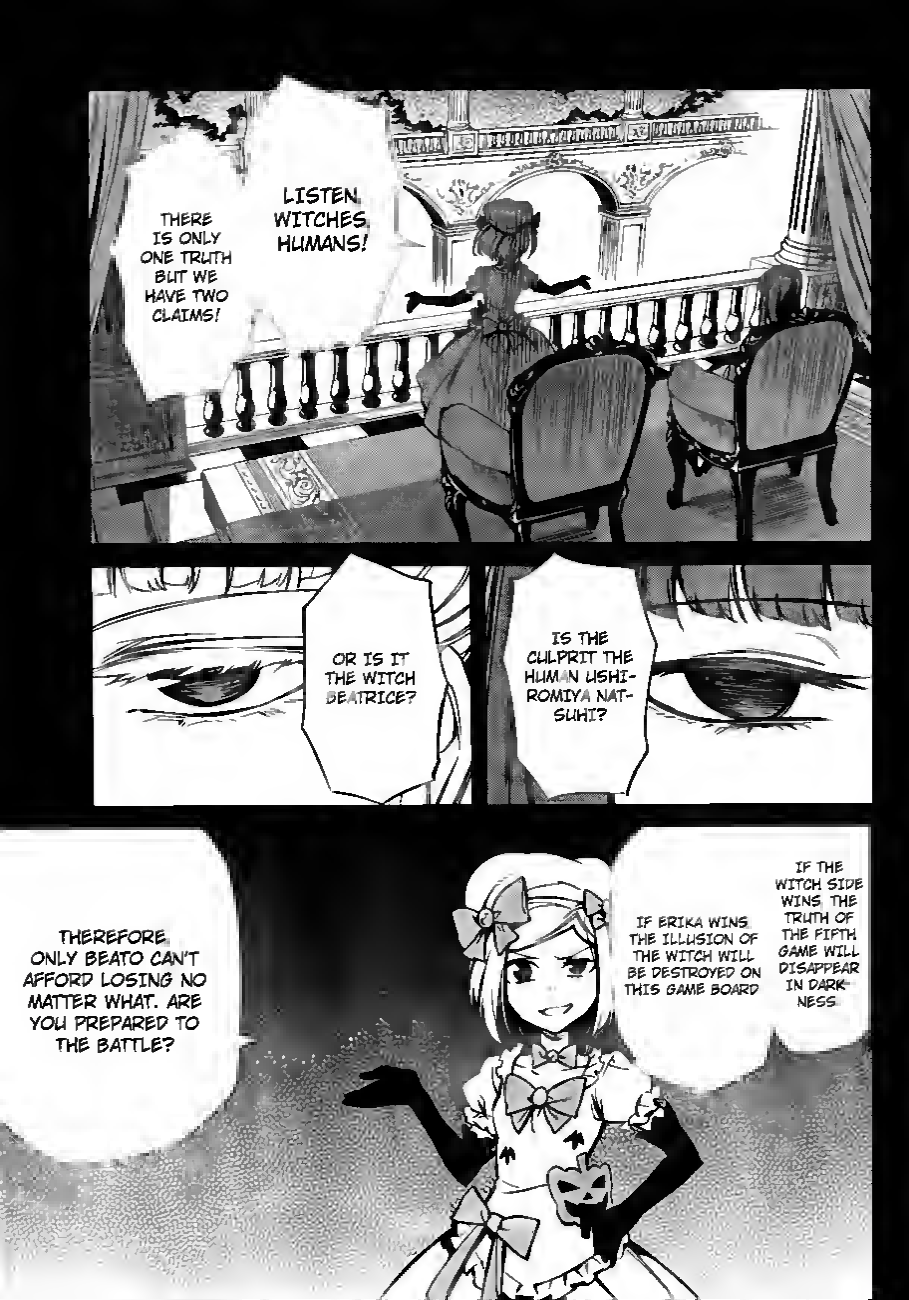
LET ME GO...
WHAT!?
YOU ARE MISTAKEN ...
ガタ
BEATO, YOU WILL OPPOSE ME, RIGHT?
NOW I'LL SHOW EVIDENCE PROVING THAT ONLY USHIROMIYA NATSUHI COULD COMMIT THE CRIME
FURUDO ERIKA
EXACTLY.

I'M THE ALCHEMY COUNSELOR TO THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY, BEATRICE, THE GOLDEN WITCH.
FURUDO ERIKA, I ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE. I'LL TEAR APART THESE FALSE ACCUSATIONS YOU'RE TRYING TO PUT ON MY MASTER!
BE BEATRICE!
DON'T WORRY... NATSUHI.
YOU ARE MY MASTER.
AND THE TRUE HEAD OF THE FAMILY. WITH THE CREST OF THE ONE-WINGED EAGLE ON YOUR HEART.
DO NOT FEAR THE CRIME YOU HAVE NOT COMMITTED.

IF ONLY KRAUSS WERE A WOMAN AND YOU WERE IN HIS PLACE...
SINCE YOU MARRIED INTO THE FAMILY YOU CAN'T INHERIT THE CREST OF THE ONE-WINGED EAGLE. HOWEVER...
THE ONE-WINGED EAGLE IS CARVED ON YOUR HEART
ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE IT IN THEIR HEARTS CAN BE CALLED MY RELATIVES.
I'M VERY PROUD THAT WE HAVE WELCOMED YOU IN OUR F. MILY.
UNTIE THE ROPES.
THERE'S NO NEED TO RESTRAIN
すっ
THAT'S RIGHT!

I AM USHIROMIYA NATSUHI!
I'LL STAND UP AGAINST ANY BLASPHEMOUS INSULTS AGAINST THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY!
I BEAR THE ONE-WINGED EAGLE IN MY HEART!
BOTH SIDES, STATE YOUR CLAIMS.
YOU REALLY ARE A BULLIED KID IN EVERY FRAGMENT.
HUH WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO BLUFF IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES?

I, BEA-
TRICE,
CLAIM
THAT...
THE
CULPRIT OF
THIS GAME
IS NOT A
HUMAN!
I AM THE
CULPRIT!
I, BERN-
KASTEL,
CLAIM
THAT...
THE
CULPRIT OF
THIS GAME
IS THE HUMAN,
USHIROMIYA
NATSUHI!


LISTEN, WITCHES, HUMANS!
THERE IS ONLY ONE TRUTH BUT WE HAVE TWO CLAIMS!
IS THE CULPRIT THE HUMAN USHIROMIYA NATSUHI?
OR IS IT THE WITCH BEATRICE?
IF THE WITCH SIDE WINS, THE TRUTH OF THE FIFTH GAME WILL DISAPPEAR IN DARKNESS.
IF ERIKA WINS THE ILLUSION OF THE WITCH WILL BE DESTROYED ON THIS GAME BOARD
THEREFORE, ONLY BEATO CAN'T AFFORD LOSING NO MATTER WHAT. ARE YOU PREPARED TO THE BATTLE?

THE OPPONENT IS DIFFERENT BUT NOTHING HAS REALLY CHANGED!
THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME I PUT MY LIFE ON THE LINE. IT WAS THE SAME EVERY TIME WITH BATTLER.
PRE-PARED
WHY DO YOU THINK I SHOULD PREPARE TO SOMETHING?
I'VE BEEN YEARNING THIS!
...
I'M NOT SO SURE.
ERIKA CAN LOSE AND NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO HER
THAT'S UNFAIR

PLEASE DON'T THROW ME AWAY, MY MASTER!
IF YOU DON'T TRY HARD ENOUGH I MIGHT CAST YOU INTO OBLIVION
I'LL DEFINITELY LIVE UP TO YOUR EXPECTATIONS! I PROMISE THAT I WON'T DISAPPOINT YOU NEXT TIME!
YOU'RE A MERE PIECE.
IT'S A SERIOUS PAIN TO KEEP ALL THE WORTHLESS PIECES IN MIND.
BERNKASTEL IS KNOWN TO BE COLD-HEARTED FOR A REASON LOOKS LIKE IT REFERS TO HER OWN PIECES AS WELL.
HUH.

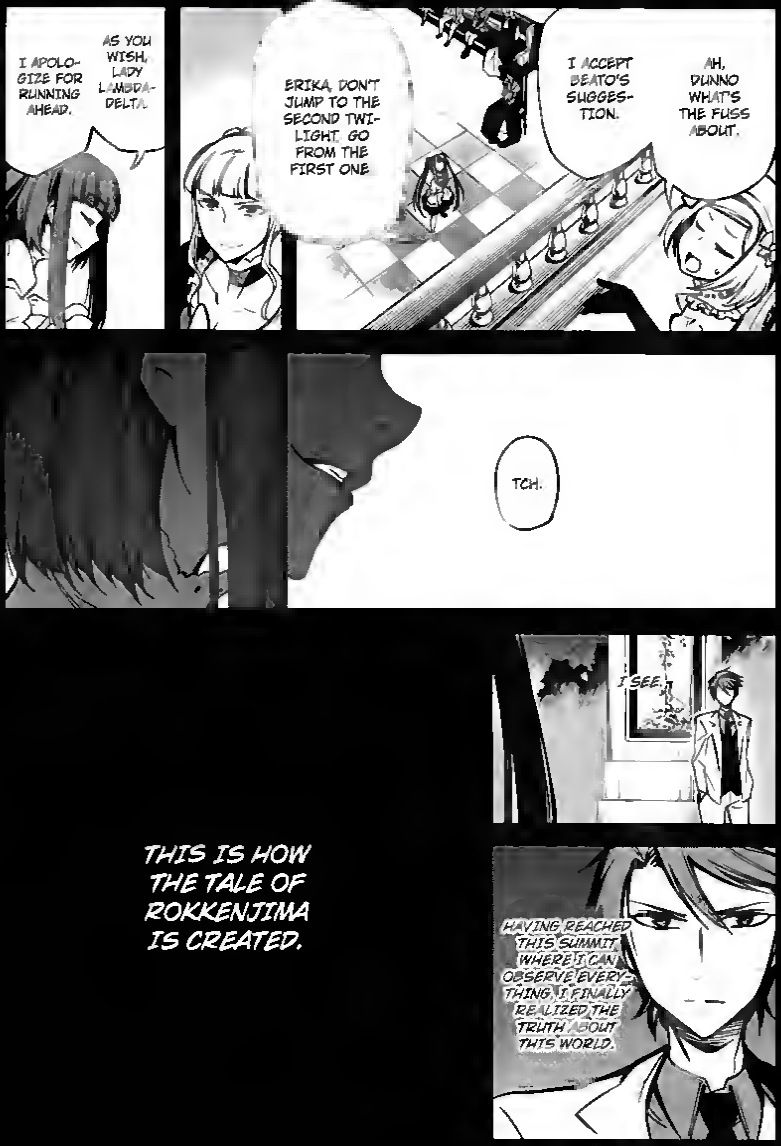
BOTH OF THEM DESPERATELY NEED VICTORY.
LET'S BEGIN!

I WOULD LIKE TO STATE MYSELF.
REGARDING HIDEYOSHI-SAN'S DEATH,
AROUND 1 PM ON THE 5TH OF OCTOBER, HIDEYOSHI-SAN WENT TO HAVE A REST IN A GUEST ROOM AND WAS MURDERED BY SOMEONE.
HOWEVER THIS CASE IS VERY SIMPLE
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SUSPECT ANYONE BUT NATSUHI-SAN.
BECAUSE ALL OF US EXCEPT NATSUHI-SAN AND THE VICTIM WERE IN THE SAME ROOM.
INDEED.
I DON'T HAVE AN ALIBI.
HOWEVER, THE LACK OF ALIBI IS NOT THE PROOF OF MY GUILT!

HOWEVER, THE CRIME SCENE WAS A CLOSED ROOM.
NOBODY COULD COMMIT A CRIME IN IT, INCLUDING NATSUHI.
I KNOW THAT ONLY NATSUHI DOESN'T HAVE AN ALIBI.
IT'S A CLOSED ROOM TRICK I'LL EXPLAIN THE HOW DUNNIT LATER.
NOW WE'RE DISCUSSING WHO DUNNIT.
IN THIS REGARD, WE CAN DEFINITELY SAY THAT THE CRIME COULDN'T BE EXECUTED BY ANY HUMAN EXCEPT NATSUHI-SAN.
MILADY, IT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS TO ATTACK THIS WAY FURTHER

I AGREE IT'S A FACT THAT NATSUHI WAS IN THE CLOSET OF HIDEYOSHI'S ROOM
YOU'LL BE CORNERED WHEN THEY START CONFIRMING LOCATIONS BY REPEATING IN RED.
MOST LIKELY.
LADY LAMBDADELTA IS THE RULER OF THE GAME.
SHE CAN DECIDE THAT NATSUHI IS THE CULPRIT REGARDLESS OF THE ACTUAL TRUTH IF ONLY IT'LL ENTERTAIN HER.
I'M AFRAID THAT THE GOAL OF THE OPPONENT IS TO CREATE THE IMPRESSION THAT MILADY NATSUHI IS THE CULPRIT BY ACCUSING HER OF THE SIMPLE HIDEYOSHI'S MURDER.
THEN THEY ARE GOING TO MOVE ON TO THE FIRST TWILIGHT WHICH HAS MUCH MORE UNCERTAIN POINTS.
HMM.

I BELIEVE THAT IT'D BE MUCH BETTER TO EXAMINE EVENTS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER
STARTING WITH THE LAST MURDER IS ILLOGICAL AND CONFUSING.
LADY LAMBDADELTA! THERE ARE SIX PEOPLE ALREADY CONFIRMED DEAD IN THIS GAME
CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER IS IRRELEVANT WHEN PROSECUTING THE CULPRIT
OBJECTION.
OBJECTION.
FURUDO ERIKA IS TRYING TO AVOID CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER TO CREATE A WRONG IMPRESSION ON THE JUDGES


I APOLOGIZE FOR RUNNING AHEAD.
AS YOU WISH, LADY LAMBDA-DELTA.
BRIKA, DON'T JUMP TO THE SECOND TWILIGHT. GO FROM THE FIRST ONE.
I ACCEPT BEATO'S SUGGESTION.
AH, DUNNO WHAT'S THE FUSS ABOUT.
TCH.
I SEE.
HAVING REACHED THIS SUMMIT WHERE I CAN OBSERVE EVERYTHING, I FINALLY REALIZED THE TRUTH ABOUT THIS WORLD.
THIS IS HOW THE TALE OF ROKKENJIMA IS CREATED.

YOU'RE RIGHT. TRUTH IS FRAGILE HERE
WHAT YOU SAID BEFORE, VIRGILIA
IT'S LIKE...
AS BOTH SIDES MAKE THEIR CLAIMS, TWO DIFFERENT TRUTHS CO-EXIST.
THIS IS A COURTROOM. BOTH SIDES CLAIM THEIR OWN TRUTH...
THIS IS LIKE THE BRAUN TUBE TRIAL VIRGILIA TALKED ABOUT BEFORE.

LATER, WHEN KUMASAWA AND KANON CAME TO THE SERVANTS' ROOM IN THE MANSION TO WAKE UP GENJI, THEY DISCOVERED HIS CORPSE.
ON THE MORNING OF THE 5TH OF OCTOBER, WITNESS BATTLER WOKE UP IN THE COUSINS' ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE GUESTHOUSE AND DISCOVERED THE CORPSES OF GEORGE MARIA, ROSA AND JESSICA.
FOLLOWING LADY LAMBDA-DELTA'S ORDERS ...
LET US START DISCUSSING THE EVENTS OF THE FIRST TWILIGHT.
AS YOU KNOW, AT MIDNIGHT OCTOBER
NATSUHI-SAN LEFT THE FAMILY CONFERENCE AND WENT TO SLEEP IN HER ROOM
FROM THAT MOMENT AND UNTIL THE MORNING YOUR ALIBI DOESN'T EXIST.
USHIROMIYA NATSUHI IS THE CULPRIT BECAUSE SHE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO DOESN'T HAVE AN ALIBI.

NATSUHI CAN'T BE CONSIDERED GUILTY WHEN THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE WITHOUT AN ALIBI.
YOU CAN'T ACCUSE NATSUHI UNLESS YOU CLEAR ALL SUSPICIONS ABOUT EVERYONE ELSE
IS THAT SO? THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE WHOSE ALIBI CAN BE DOUBTED.
OF COURSE.
THE SUSPECTS OF THE FIRST TWILIGHT ARE PEOPLE FROM THE GUEST-HOUSE: GOHDA, KUMASAWA AND NANJO
AND PEOPLE FROM THE MANSION. KRAUSS...
GENJI, SHANNON, KANON
EVA, RUDOLF
HIDE-YOSHI, KYRIE

AND NATSUHI.
ERIKA WILL PROVE THE ALIBI OF EVERYONE EXCEPT NATSUHI.
USHIROMIYA NATSUHI IS THE CULPRIT BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE'S ALIBI CAN BE PROVED.
OF COURSE, MY MASTER!

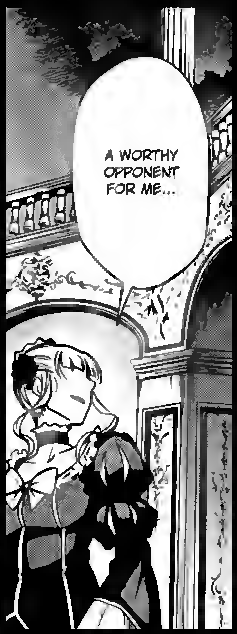
VERY WELL, I'LL BEGIN THE EXPLANATION.
LET'S PUT GENJI'S CASE ASIDE AND CONCENTRATE ON THE EVENTS IN THE GUESTHOUSE
ON THAT NIGHT, GOHDA AND KUMASAWA WERE THE ONLY SERVANTS IN THE GUESTHOUSE
IS THAT CORRECT?
YES.
I WAS ALONE IN THE SERVANTS' ROOM OF THE GUESTHOUSE
MY BODY IS TOO OLD. I COULDN'T SERVE THE NIGHT SHIFT
SO I WENT TO THE WAITING ROOM AND FELL ASLEEP
I SEE.

IT CAN'T BE PROVED THAT NATSUHI IS THE CULPRIT...
BECAUSE THERE ARE CHANCES THAT GOHDA AND KUMASAWA WHO WERE IN THE GUESTHOUSE COULD BE GUILTY
JUST LIKE NATSUHI, THEY STAYED IN THEIR OWN ROOMS. SO BOTH OF THEM HAVE NO ALIBI.
THAT'S NOT ALIBI BECAUSE IT'S SELF-PROCLAIMED.
I CAN EXPLAIN.
AFTER DINNER KUMASAWA WENT FROM THE MANSION TO THE GUESTHOUSE TOGETHER WITH US AND WENT TO SLEEP IN THE WAITING ROOM RIGHT AWAY.
AFTER FINISHING HIS DUTIES GOHDA STAYED WITH US IN THE LOUNGE TALKING AND THEN WENT TO SLEEP TOO.
BOTH COULDN'T COMMIT THE MURDERS.
I CAN PROVE IT.

REPEAT IT IN RED: "I HAVE DEFINITE PROOF REGARDING THE ALIBIS OF GOHDA AND KUMASAWA".
FINALLY IT BEGINS.
I SHALL STAND UP THEN.
WHY WOULD I GIVE HINTS TO THE OPPONENT? I WON'T RESPOND.
I REFUSE TO REPEAT.
I AGREE.
WHAT'S THIS, BERN, ERIKA?
HUH.
DID YOU HEAR THAT, LADY LAMBDADELTA? LOOKS LIKE THEY DON'T HAVE PROOFS.
HOW CAN YOU CLAIM GOHDA'S AND KUMASAWA'S ALIBI?
HOW CAN THEY INSIST ON GOHDA'S AND KUMASAWA'S ALIBI WITHOUT PROOFS?

STAND BACK, ERIKA!
AS A MERE HUMAN WHO CAN'T USE THE RED YOU CAN'T EVEN COUNTER THE BLUE TRUTH.
YOU'RE NOT AN OPPONENT FOR A WITCH!

WOULD BE DLANOR.


A WORTHY OPPONENT FOR ME...

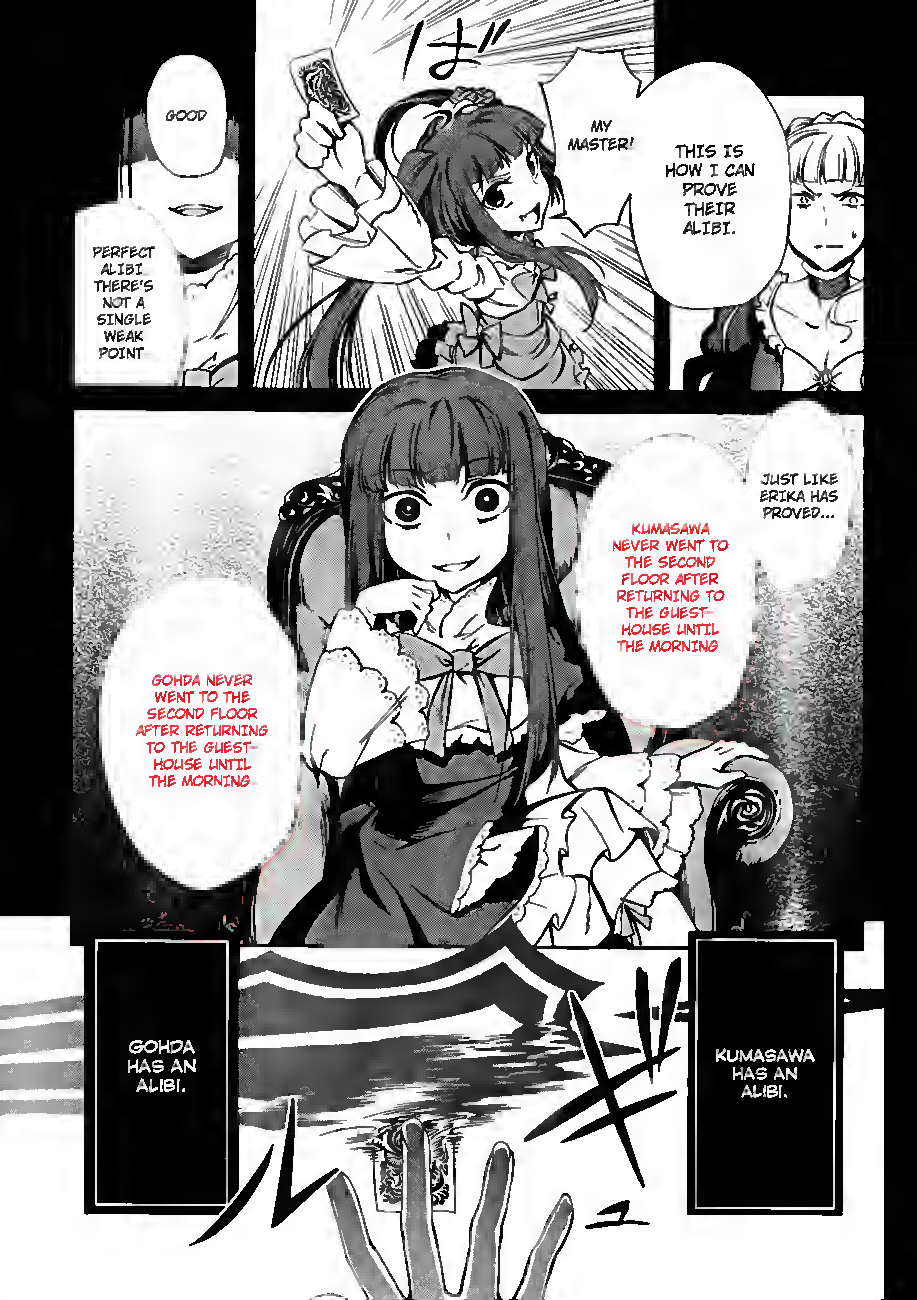
NO.
IT'S NOT MY TURN YET.
WHAT?
EXACTLY.
THE ILLUSION OF THE WITCH WILL BE DENIED EXACTLY BECAUSE YOU WILL BE DEFEATED BY A MERE HUMAN LIKE ME.
GO ON. USE RED ...
OR BLUE.
AS YOU WISH.
CAN YOU WITHSTAND IT?

...
GOHDA AND KUMASAWA HAVE NO ALIBI!
BOTH OF THEM WERE IN THE GUESTHOUSE AND COULD COMMIT THE CRIME IN THE COUSINS ROOM
...
IF YOU CAN'T DISPROVE THIS
YOU CAN'T CALL NAT-SUHI THE CULPRIT!

IF YOU CAN'T, I'LL HAVE TO CUT YOUR THROAT TO SILENCE YOUR ARROGANT MOUTH FOREVER!
HOW DO YOU LIKE IT?
SO, HUMAN FURUDO ERIKA.
SHOW ME HOW YOU'RE GOING TO COUNTER MY BLUE TRUTH.

ACTUALLY ...
..?
LAST NIGHT AFTER DINNER I HAD A CONVERSATION WITH EVA
SHE SUGGESTED AN INTERESTING THING
COULD IT BE...
!!
YES THE WAY KINZO'S STUDY WAS SEALED.
I KNEW THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE TO SEAL THE DOOR BY PUTTING SOMETHING BETWEEN IT AND THE WALL.

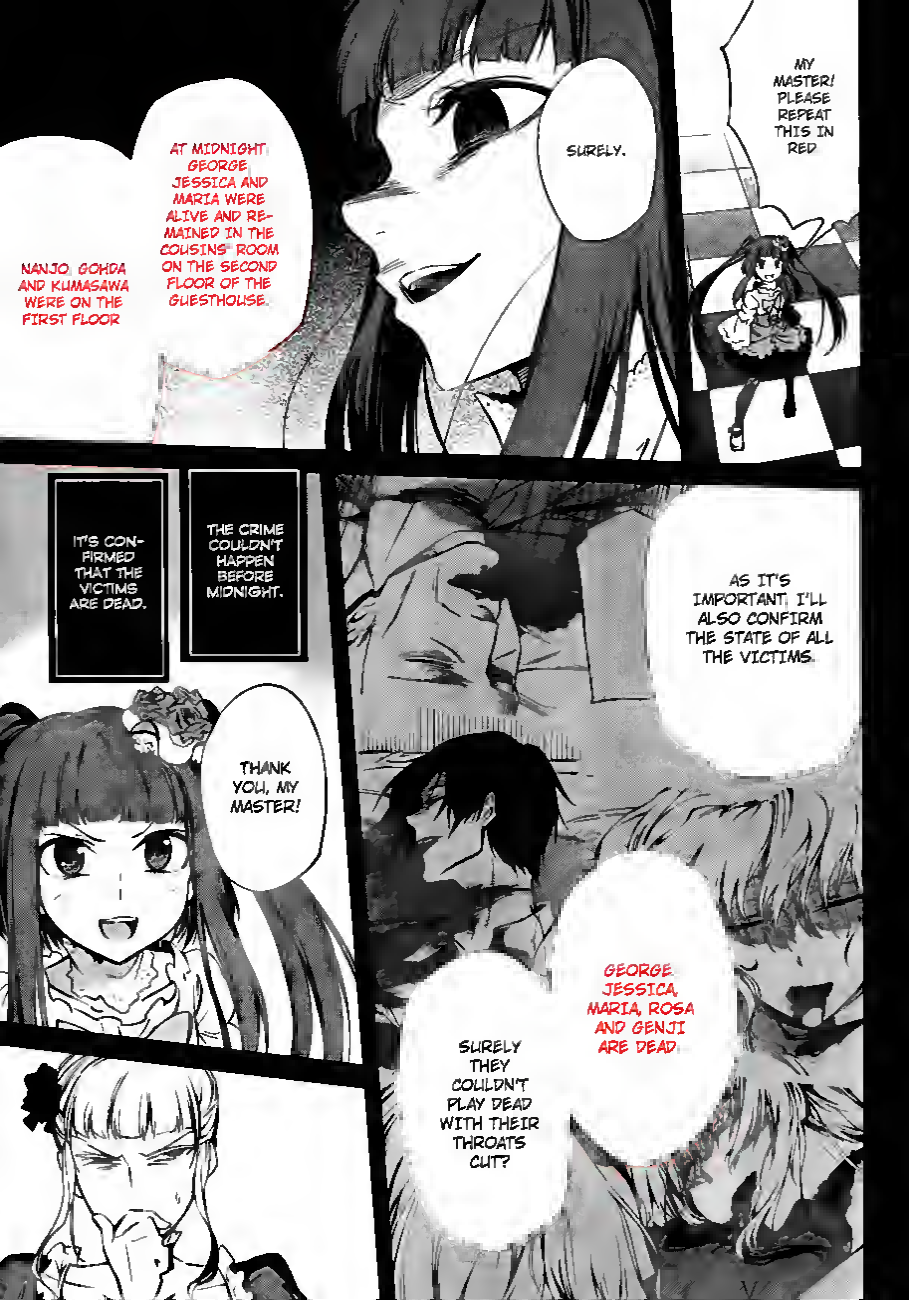
SHE PUT THAT ON KUMASAWA'S DOOR?
THE CASE OCCURS WHEREVER THE DETECTIVE IS PRESENT.
I FORESAW THAT THE CASE WOULD NOT APPEAR...
AND USED THESE SEALS WHEN SOMEONE WAS ABOUT TO LOSE AN ALIBI.
I SAW KUMASAWA OFF UNTIL THE WAITING ROOM AND THEN SEALED THE DOOR WITH DUCT TAPE.
IN THE MORNING, DURING THE TURMOIL AFTER THE CRIME WAS DISCOVERED...
FIRST OF ALL, I CHECKED KUMASAWA'S ROOM AND MADE SURE THAT THE SEAL WAS UNTOUCHED.
SAME WITH GOHDA, AS SOON AS HE WENT TO SLEEP IN THE SERVANTS' ROOM, I SEALED THE DOOR.
WHEN ROSA RETURNED AT 1 AM, I WENT TO THE SERVANTS' ROOM TO TELL GOHDA ABOUT IT, AND THE SEAL WAS STILL INTACT.
AFTER THAT, WE STAYED IN THE LOUNGE TALKING UNTIL 3 AM.
AFTER 3 AM I STAYED AT THE SECOND FLOOR SO I CAN CONFIRM THAT GOHDA DIDN'T GO UPSTAIRS.

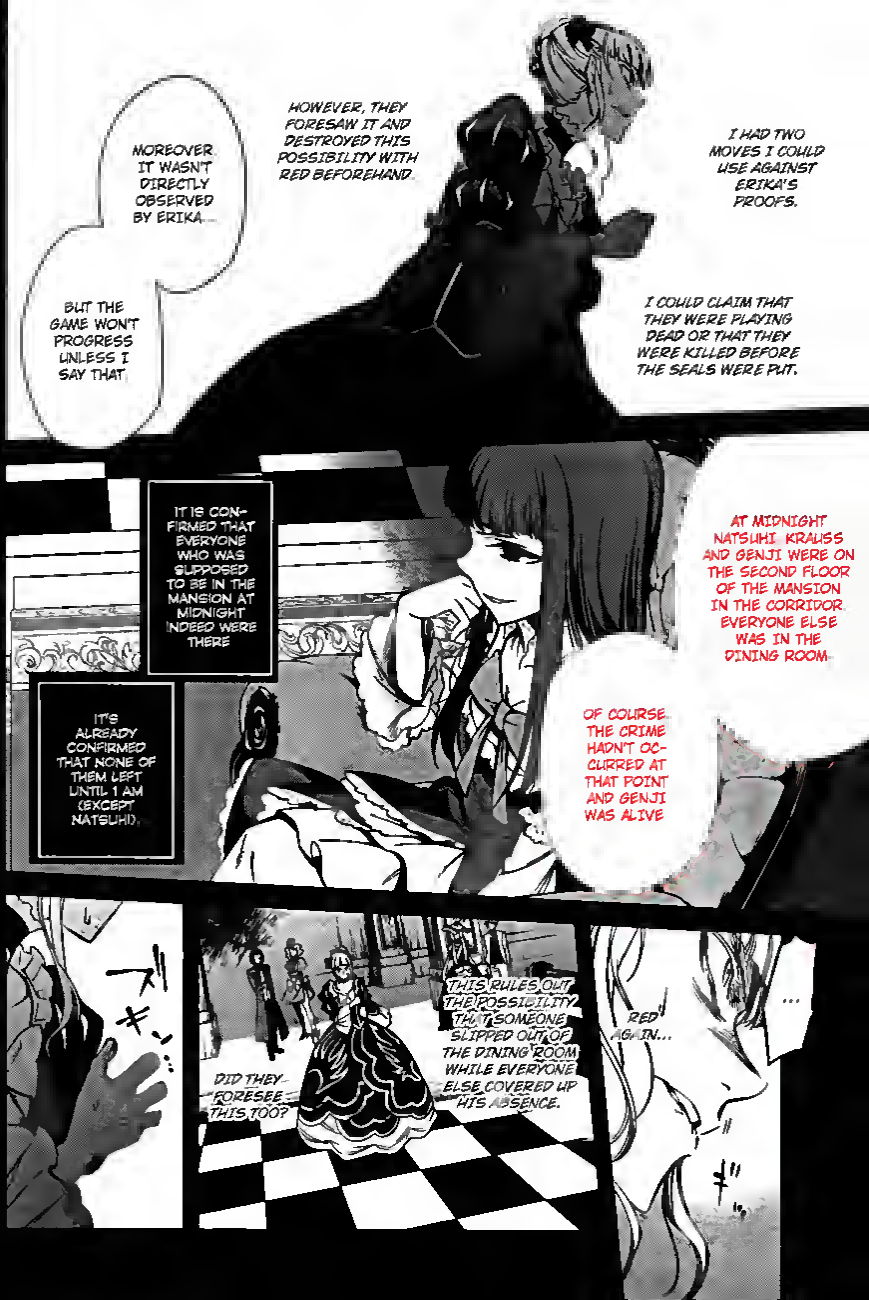

GOOD
PERFECT ALIBI. THERE'S NOT A SINGLE WEAK POINT
MY MASTER!
THIS IS HOW I CAN PROVE THEIR ALIBI.
JUST LIKE ERIKA HAS PROVED...
KUMASAWA NEVER WENT TO THE SECOND FLOOR AFTER RETURNING TO THE GUEST-HOUSE UNTIL THE MORNING
GOHDA NEVER WENT TO THE SECOND FLOOR AFTER RETURNING TO THE GUEST-HOUSE UNTIL THE MORNING
GOHDA HAS AN ALIBI.
KUMASAWA HAS AN ALIBI.

ERIKA PROVED THE ALIBI WITH HER SEALS AND LADY BERNKASTEL CONFIRMED IT IN RED.
THAT'S THE METHOD...
IS OTHERS' ALIBIS ARE CONFIRMED!..
SUSPICIONS ABOUT NATSUHI INCRE...SE!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH, LADY LAMBDADELTA, MY MASTER
WELL DONE, ERIKA
RED TRUTH, EFFECTIVE
I'M THE DETECTIVE.
I'M A HUMAN, BUT AT THE SAME TIME I HAVE GAINED THE ABILITY TO USE RED TRUTH...
AND THUS I HAVE OVERCOME HUMAN LIMITS!

YOU THINK TOO MUCH OF YOURSELF. YOU DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO SPEAK LIKE THIS.
OVERCOME HUMAN LIMITS
I WOULD LIKE TO PREVENT ANY USELESS INQUIRIES FROM YOUR SIDE. SO I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING CLEARLY MYSELF.
REGARDING THE SITUATION IN THE GUEST HOUSE AT MIDNIGHT.
PEOPLE REMAINING IN THE GUEST HOUSE WERE ME, THE THREE COUSINS DOCTOR NANJO GOHDA AND KUMAGAWA
WHEN THE GOLD WAS DISCOVERED AND AN EMERGENCY MEETING WAS ASSEMBLED, BATTLER WENT TO THE MANSION WITH THE FAMILY
GEORGE JESSICA AND MARIA PLAYED CARDS IN THE ROOM UPSTAIRS
I PLAYED WITH THEM FOR A SHORT WHILE SO I CAN CONFIRM THAT THEY WERE ALIVE


MY MASTER! PLEASE REPEAT THIS IN RED
SURELY.
AT MIDNIGHT, GEORGE, JESSICA AND MARIA WERE ALIVE AND REMAINED IN THE COUSINS' ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE GUESTHOUSE.
NANJO, GOHDA AND KUMASAWA WERE ON THE FIRST FLOOR
AS IT'S IMPORTANT, I'LL ALSO CONFIRM THE STATE OF ALL THE VICTIMS.
GEORGE, JESSICA, MARIA, ROSA AND GENJI ARE DEAD.
SURELY THEY COULDN'T PLAY DEAD WITH THEIR THROATS CUT?
THE CRIME COULDN'T HAPPEN BEFORE MIDNIGHT.
IT'S CONFIRMED THAT THE VICTIMS ARE DEAD.
THANK YOU, MY MASTER!


I HAD TWO MOVES I COULD USE AGAINST ERIKA'S PROOFS.
I COULD CLAIM THAT THEY WERE PLAYING DEAD OR THAT THEY WERE KILLED BEFORE THE SEALS WERE PUT.
HOWEVER, THEY FORESAW IT AND DESTROYED THIS POSSIBILITY WITH RED BEFOREHAND.
MOREOVER, IT WASN'T DIRECTLY OBSERVED BY ERIKA...
BUT THE GAME WON'T PROGRESS UNLESS I SAY THAT.
AT MIDNIGHT NATSUHI KRAUSS AND GENJI WERE ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE MANSION IN THE CORRIDOR. EVERYONE ELSE WAS IN THE DINING ROOM.
IT IS CONFIRMED THAT EVERYONE WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO BE IN THE MANSION AT MIDNIGHT INDEED WERE THERE
IT'S ALREADY CONFIRMED THAT NONE OF THEM LEFT UNTIL 1 AM (EXCEPT NATSUHI).
OF COURSE, THE CRIME HADN'T OCCURRED AT THAT POINT AND GENJI WAS ALIVE
ズキン...
DID THEY FORESEE THIS TOO?
THIS RULES OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOMEONE SLIPPED OUT OF THE DINING ROOM WHILE EVERYONE ELSE COVERED UP HIS ABSENCE.
RED AGAIN...
...

I DIDN'T EXPECT THIS
THIS IS DANGEROUS
DAMN YOU...
THIS WAY ERIKA CAN USE RED EVEN THOUGH SHE IS NEITHER WITCH NOR G. ME MASTER.
HOWEVER, WITCH BERNKASTEL IS LACKING ERIKA.
SO BEATO DOESN'T KNOW THE TRUTH, AND CAN'T USE RED.
THIS BEATO ISN'T THE GAME MASTER. SHE IS JUST A SINGLE PIECE ON THE BOARD.
BUT DETECTIVE ERIKA CAN.
WITCH BEATO CAN'T USE THE RED.

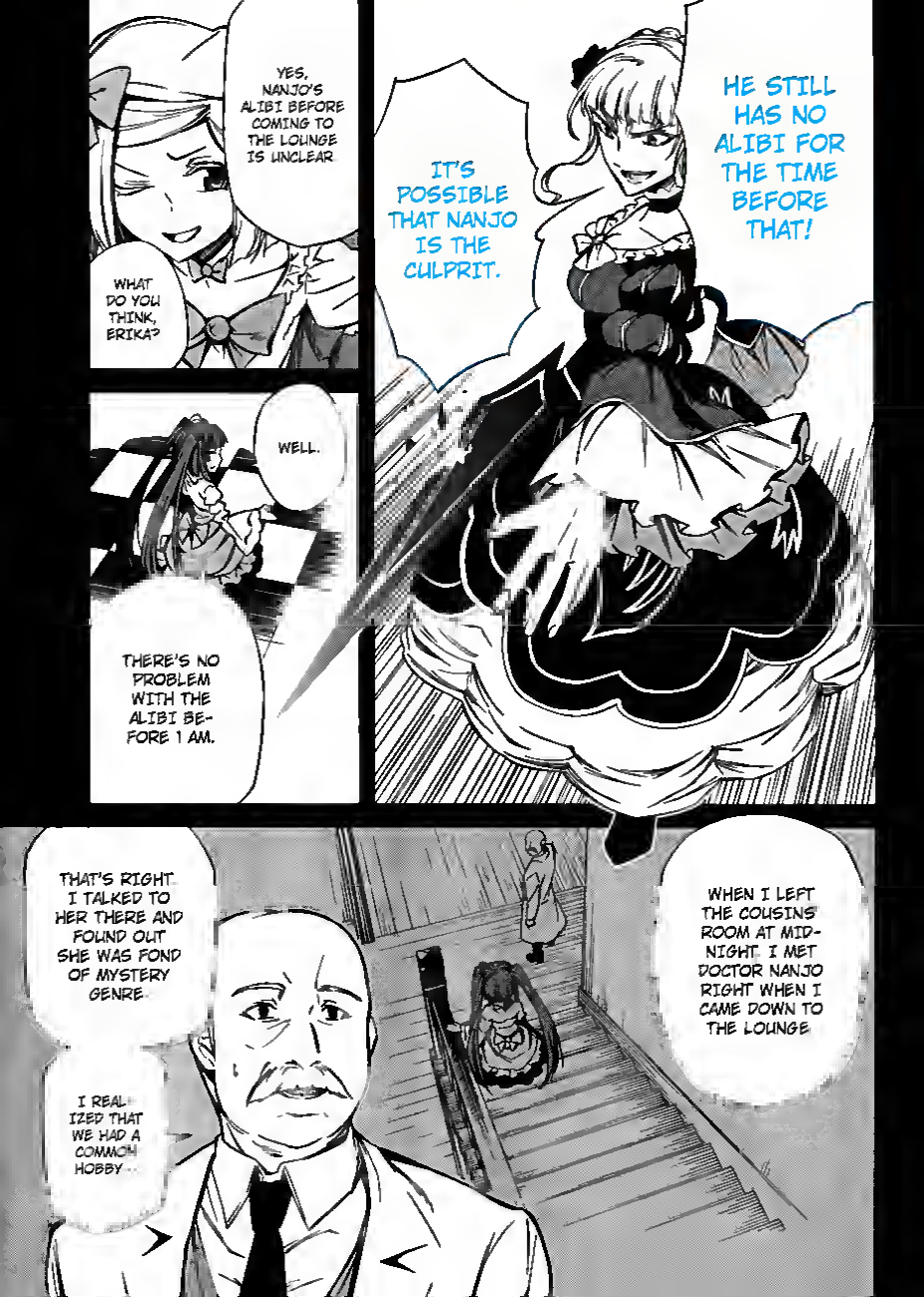
NOW BEATO IS IN THE SAME SITUATION AS ME WHEN I WAS FIGHTING HER.
NO, I THINK HER CURRENT SITUATION IS EVEN DIRER.

SHE KNOWS ALL THE RULES OF THE GAME EXCELLENTLY AND IS NOT GOING TO GIVE BEATO ANY OPPORTUNITIES.
BERNKSTEL IS DIFFERENT.
UNTIL I GOT USED TO THE GAME, BEATO REPEATED A LOT OF MY REQUESTS IN RED, THUS GIVING ME HINTS.
NOW I REALIZE...
THAT BACK THEN BEATO WAS GOING EASY ON ME...
TO MAKE THE BATTLE SEEM EQUAL.

HA-HA-HA. THIS IS AN INTERESTING BATTLE.
INDEED. I'M FIGHTING LIKE BATTLER DID SOME TIME AGO.
...!
I USED TO SCORN YOU AND CALL YOU INCOMPETENT.
I CAN STAND THIS EASILY. HA-HA.
NO. WE CAN ONLY CHANGE THE POINT OF DISCUSSION
INDEED NANJO STAYED WITH ERIKA IN THE LOUNGE. BUT THE PERIOD BEFORE THAT IS UNCLEAR
THAT'S RIGHT. I'LL STRIKE HERE.
NANJO.
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU STAYED WITH ERIKA AND GOHDA ON THE FIRST FLOOR IN THE LOUNGE?

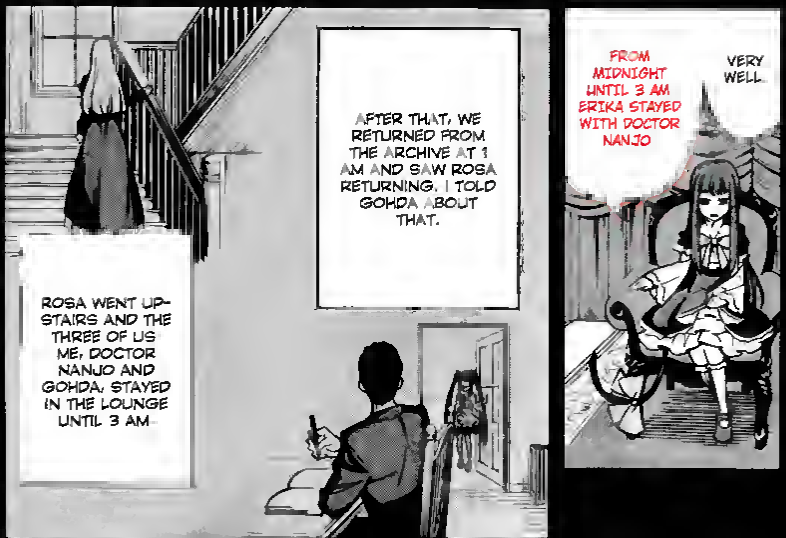
YES, I STAYED WITH ERIKA THE WHOLE TIME
IS IT POSSIBLE THAT NANJO IS THE CULPRIT?
YES, BETWEEN 1 AM AND 3 AM...
I, DOCTOR NANJO AND GOHDA WERE RELAXING IN THE LOUNGE.
MF MASTER PLEASE REPEAT IT IN RED!
VERY WELL
BETWEEN 1 AM AND 3 AM ERIKA, NANJO AND GOHDA WERE IN THE LOUNGE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE GUESTHOUSE
UGH.
ズキ…

ARE YOU ALRIGHT BEATRICE?
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU ARE IN PAIN!
DON'T WORRY. I'M JUST A BIT TIRED.
NATSUHI JUST STAND BACK THERE LIKE A TRUE MASTER AND WATCH ME WIN.
BEATO IS ACTING TOUGH...
BUT IN REALITY SHE IS STRUGGLING!
AS ALIBIS OF PEOPLE OTHER THAN AUNT NATSUHI ARE PROVED...
THE ILLUSION OF THE WITCH IS BEING DENIED
WHEN HER EXISTENCE IS DENIED, IT SHOULD FEEL LIKE A TORTURE TO BEATO.
BEATO...


YES, NANJO'S ALIBI BEFORE COMING TO THE LOUNGE IS UNCLEAR.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, ERIKA?
WELL.
THERE'S NO PROBLEM WITH THE ALIBI BEFORE 1 AM.
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT NANJO IS THE CULPRIT.
HE STILL HAS NO ALIBI FOR THE TIME BEFORE THAT!
THAT'S RIGHT. I TALKED TO HER THERE AND FOUND OUT SHE WAS FOND OF MYSTERY GENRE.
I REALIZED THAT WE HAD A COMMON HOBBY...
WHEN I LEFT THE COUSINS ROOM AT MIDNIGHT, I MET DOCTOR NANJO RIGHT WHEN I CAME DOWN TO THE LOUNGE.

SUMMING UP, I WAS WITH DOCTOR NANJO SINCE MIDNIGHT AND UNTIL 3 AM.
WE TALKED THERE FOR A WHILE AND THEN MOVED TO THE LOUNGE TOGETHER.
I HEARD THAT THERE WERE MANY FAMOUS FOREIGN MYSTERY NOVELS IN THE ARCHIVE.

I SEE. THEN, NANJO'S ALIBI IS THE MOST SOLID.
LOOKS LIKE THAT!
AH! MASTER, PLEASE REPEAT IT IN RED.


AFTER THAT, WE RETURNED FROM THE ARCHIVE AT 1 AM AND SAW ROSA RETURNING. I TOLD GOHDA ABOUT THAT.
ROSA WENT UPSTAIRS AND THE THREE OF US ME, DOCTOR NANJO AND GOHDA, STAYED IN THE LOUNGE UNTIL 3 AM.
VERY WELL.
FROM MIDNIGHT UNTIL 3 AM ERIKA STAYED WITH DOCTOR NANJO

OF COURSE, I SEALED THE DOCTOR'S ROOM AT THAT MOMENT.
I, DOCTOR NANJO AND BATTLER WENT TO THE SECOND FLOOR AND ENTERED DIFFERENT ROOMS.
BATTLER RETURNED AT 3 AM AND THEN WE WENT TO SLEEP.
AND CONFIRMED THAT DOCTOR NANJO'S ROOM WAS STILL SEALED.
EVERYTHING ELSE WENT SIMILAR TO THE PREVIOUS EXPLANATIONS. IN THE MORNING WHEN I HEARD BATTLER'S SCREAM, I RAN OUT OF THE ROOM...
WONDERFUL.
THUS, DOCTOR NANJO'S ALIBI BEFORE 1 AM AND AFTER 3 AM IS PERFECT.
MY MASTER!
ERIKA.

YOUR SEALS AND YOUR RED TRUTH ARE PERFECT.
NANJO HAS AN ALIBI BEFORE 3 AM BECAUSE HE WAS WITH ERIKA.
AND AFTER 3 AM AND UNTIL THE MORNING HE DIDN'T LEAVE HIS ROOM.
NANJO HAS AN ALIBI.
THEREFORE, I'VE PROVED THE INNOCENCE OF ALL PEOPLE IN THE GUEST-HOUSE
ANY QUEST-IONS?

I...
HAVE A QUEST-ION!
WELL, THAT'S WHAT...
REJECTED!
I HAVE NO QUESTIONS. IT'S ALL POP CUTE AND PERFECT!
IT'S NOW PROVED THAT EVERYONE IN THE GUEST-HOUSE HAS AN ALIBI
WAIT A SECOND, ERIKA.
WHAT ABOUT MYSELF?

USHI-ROMIYA BATTLER COULD BE THE CULPRIT TOO!
I SPENT THE WHOLE NIGHT IN THE SAME ROOM AS THE VIC-TIMS.
YOU CAN'T CONTINUE THE DIS-CUSSION UNTIL YOU ANSWER THIS.

BAT-
TLER!
ATTENTION
BATTLER'S
RIGHT TO
SPEAK ISN'T
ACKNOW
LEDGED YET.
OUCH...
DAMN

FORGIVE ME.
SORRY.
I KNOW, BATTLER.
ERIKA! YOU HAVEN'T PROVED THAT BATTLER HAS AN ALIBI!
BATTLER SLEPT RIGHT NEXT TO THE VICTIMS.
NORMALLY HE WOULD BE THE NUMBER ONE SUSPECT, WOULDN'T HE?
IS IT POSSIBLE THAT BATTLER COMMITTED THE CRIME?

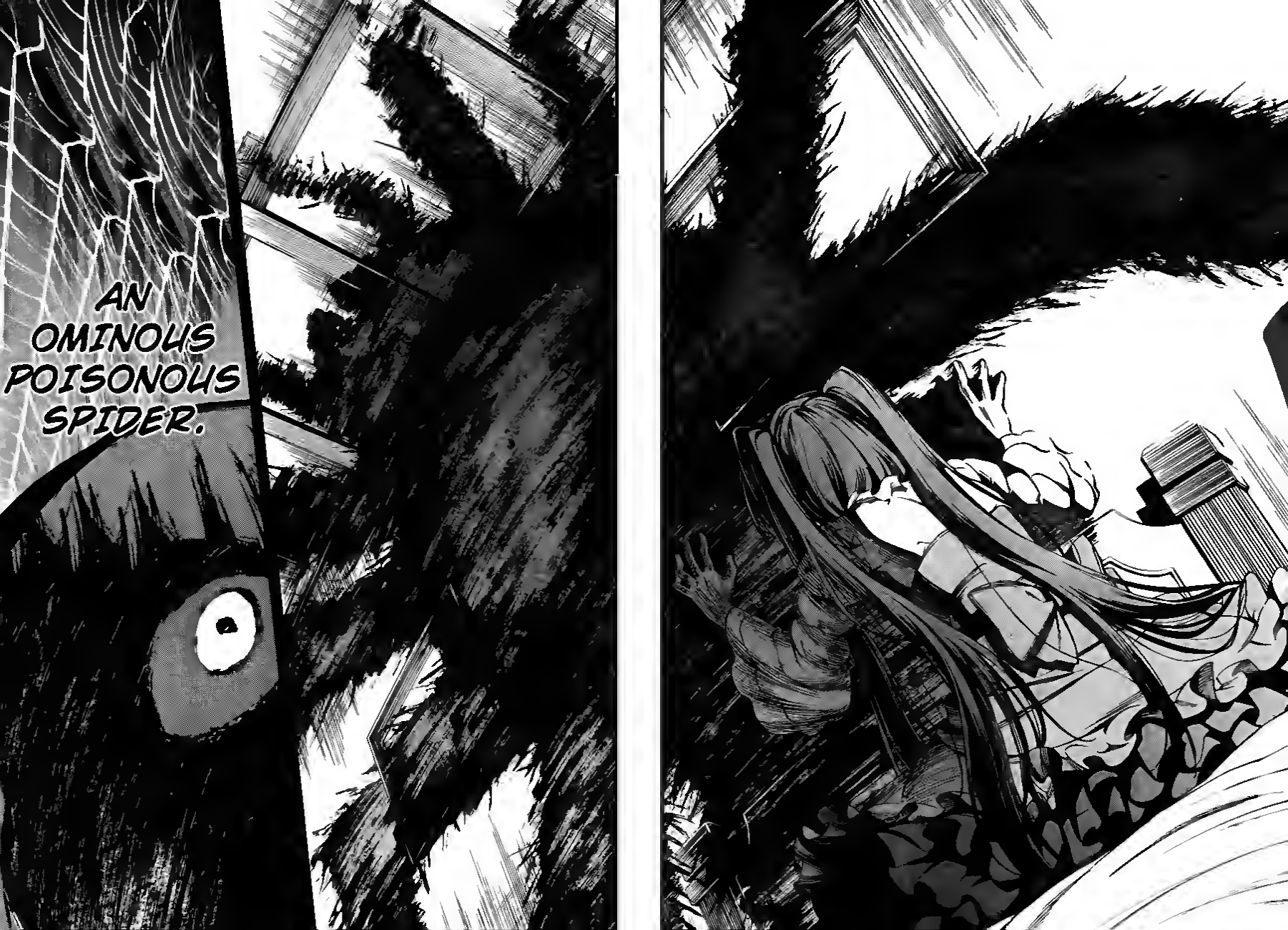
YOU CLAIM THAT YOU WENT UPSTAIRS WITH BATTLER AT 3 AM AND THEN YOU WENT TO YOUR ROOM TO SLEEP.
YOU WERE IN THE COUSINS ROOM AT MIDNIGHT, BUT YOU DIDN'T GO THERE AFTER 3 AM.
BEATO IS RIGHT.
YOU SHOULDN'T OMIT BATTLER.
I APOLOGIZE I TOTALLY FORGOT ABOUT HIM.
OR WILL YOU SAY THAT YOU DECIDED TO SLIP INTO BATTLER'S BED?
HUH! ONLY IF YOU STAYED THE WHOLE NIGHT BESIDE HIS BED WATCHING HIM SLEEP JUST TO CONFIRM THE ALIBI...
THEN I'LL ACCEPT YOUR CLAIM.

YES, I WAS LISTENING TO HIS BREATH THE WHOLE NIGHT.
YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?
I, FURUDO ERIKA, CAN PROVE THAT BATTLER SLEPT THE WHOLE NIGHT AFTER RETURNING TO THE COUSINS' ROOM AT 3 AM...
AND THAT NOTHING HAD HAPPENED IN THE ROOM UNTIL HE WOKE UP, SAW WHAT WAS IN THE ROOM AND SCREAMED.
WHAT?

...
RIDI-CULOUS!
HE'S JUST THE HAPPY FIRST WITNESS WHO SLEPT ON THE CRIME SCENE WITHOUT REALI-ZING ANYTHING.
SO DON'T WORRY. BATTLER ISN'T THE CULPRIT.
HOW CAN YOU PROVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
YOU CAN'T PROVE THAT EVEN WITH YOUR FAVORITE SEALS!
ROOM?
SHE NEVER SAID THAT SHE SAW IT. WHERE IS ERIKA'S ROOM?
HOW CAN YOU SPEAK ABOUT THIS AS IF YOU'VE SEEN THAT WITH YOUR OWN EYES?
I ENTERED THE ROOM ALONE! ERIKA WENT TO HER OWN ROOM!

ERIKA, PLEASE, EXPLAIN.
HOW CAN YOU PROVE BATTLER'S INNOCENCE?
HE-HE-HE-HE
THIS IS HOW REAL DETECTIVES WORK.
MY ROOM WAS NEXT TO THE COUSINS' ROOM. THEY'RE SEPARATED ONLY BY A THIN WALL.
DO YOU MEAN THAT...
YOU PUT YOUR EAR AGAINST THE WALL AND LISTENED?
UNTIL BATTLER WOKE UP AND SCREAMED?

YES. MY EARS ARE PERFECT.
AS SOON AS BATTLER ENTERED HIS ROOM, I PUT MY EAR AGAINST THE WALL AND LISTENED TO MAKE SURE NOTHING UNUSUAL WAS GOING ON.
UNTIL MORNING. .
WITHOUT A BLINK OF SLEEP.
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?
THE ROOM IS PITCH DARK UNTIL THE DAWN.
IT'S LIKE WHEN YOU SEE...
CLINGING ONTO THE WALL IN THE DARKNESS...
KILLING HER BREATH...
SHE IS OBSERVING THE COUSINS' ROOM.


AN OMINOUS POISONOUS SPIDER.

I THOUGHT HE WOULD BECOME THE VICTIM OF THE FIRST TWILIGHT
SO, JUST AS MY MASTER TOLD ME, I WAS WATCHING HIM THE WHOLE TIME.
ERIKA HAS PERFECT PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY
AND PERFECT HEARING ABILITY.
IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO DECEIVE HER EARS AND KILL THE VICTIMS WHILE SHE WAS LISTENING.
WHEN BATTLER RECEIVED THE RING OF THE HEAD, I REALIZED THAT HE WAS THE KEY MAN OF THE STORY.

I'LL CONFIRM IT IN RED AFTER 3 AM, USHIROMIYA BATTLER RETURNED TO THE COUSINS' ROOM AND FELL ASLEEP
THIS ABILITY IS AN ACCEPTED PART OF DETECTIVE AUTHORITY.
AND UNTIL THE MURDERS WERE DISCOVERED, NOTHING SUSPICIOUS HAPPENED IN THE ROOM.
THEREFORE, BATTLER COULDN'T KILL ANYONE OR INFLICT WOUNDS ON DEAD BODIES.
BATTLER ISN'T THE CULPRIT.
WHILE OTHERS' ALIBIS ARE PROVED...
SUSPICIONS ON NATSUHI BECOME STRONGER AND STRONGER.
UGH.

NOW GOHDA, KUMAS.W.
NANJO
AND BATTLER
ALL HAVE PROVED ALIBIS.
ONLY PEOPLE FROM THE MANSION REMAIN!
DOES BEATO HAVE ANY MORE MOVES?
月刊ヘつつく 7月21日(土)発売

REAL FANS SUPPORT UMINEKO BY BUYING THE MANGA! SIMPLY BY KNOWING OF THE MANGA'S EXISTENCE, THIS LEVEL OF REASONING IS POSSIBLE FOR FURUDO ERIKA.

WTDND
GROUP
Translation: leopard
Cleaning: Nabiki Asakura
Typesetting: Michalv
http://wtdnd.wordpress.com/

THE MURDERS OF THE FIRST TWILIGHT IN THE GUESTHOUSE.
I PLANNED TO EXPL IN THEM WITH THE PEOPLE WHO WERE CLOSE TO THE CRIME SCENE...
HOWEVER, BE- CAUSE OF ERIKA'S DUCT TAPE SEALS, I CAN SUSPECT ONLY PEOPLE FROM THE MANSION NOW.
THE TRIAL HAS BARELY ST RTED AND I'VE ALREADY BEEN DRIVEN TO THE CORNER.
THE INTENSE COURT OF ILLUSIONS...
YOU'RE IN PAIN.
RICHE!
DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THE LAST WORDS?

IT MEANS THAT NOBODY, INCLUDING BATTLER, COULD KILL GEORGE, JESSICA, MARIA AND ROSA AFTER 3 AM.
AFTER 3 A.M., USHIROMIYA BATTLER RETURNED TO THE COUSINS' ROOM AND FELL ASLEEP. AND UNTIL THE MURDERS WERE DISCOVERED, NOTHING SUSPICIOUS HAPPENED IN THE ROOM.
OF COURSE.
IT HAS BEEN SETTLED THAT THE CRIME HAPPENED BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 3 A.M.
AND AT MIDNIGHT, THEY WERE CONFIRMED ALIVE.
AND ALL PEOPLE IN THE GUEST-HOUSE HAVE ALIBIS.
I HAVE TO PROVE THAT SOMEONE WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE FAMILY MEETING AT THAT TIME COULD BE THE CULPRIT!
OTHERWISE, NATSUHI WILL BE THE ONLY SUSPECT...

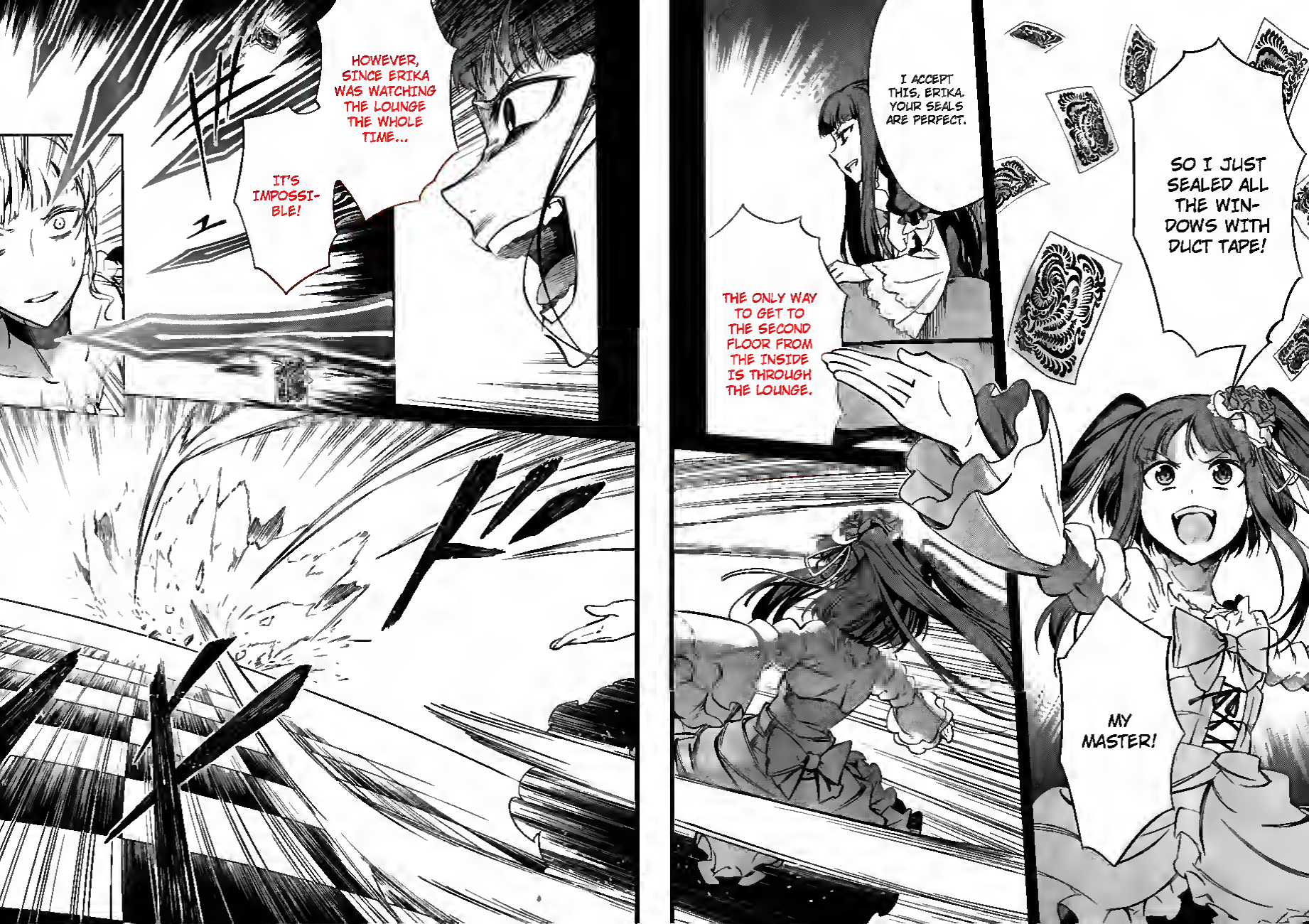
AND SHE WILL BE PRO-CLAIMED GUILTY!
うみねこのなく頃に
Episode 5 : End of the golden witch
原作・監修：竜騎士07
作画：秋タカ
CHAPTEH 22. DIFFERENT THUTH (2)
©竜騎士07/07th Expansion

COULD SOMEONE FROM THE MANSION COMMIT THE CRIME BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 3 AM?
THAT'S PRETTY DIFFICULT
ERIKA STAYED IN THE LOUNGE UNTIL 3 AM, AND ONE CAN'T GO THE SECOND FLOOR WITHOUT PASSING THROUGH THE LOUNGE
IS IT POSSIBLE TO REACH THE SECOND FLOOR WITHOUT ERIKA NOTICING?
SHE IS LIKE A SENTRY GUARDING THE SECOND FLOOR
THAT'S RIGHT
THE GUESTHOUSE IS LAID OUT SO THAT I WOULD NOTICE ANYONE GOING TO THE SECOND FLOOR
THERE ARE NO BLIND SPOTS AND SCREENS AND IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO CONSTRUCT THEM PHYSICALLY OR DECEIVE ME

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH THE SECOND FLOOR WITHOUT PEOPLE IN THE LOUNGE NOTICING IT.
OF COURSE, I'M TALKING ABOUT THE STAIRS TO THE SECOND FLOOR INSIDE THE HOUSE
MY MASTER! PLEASE REPEAT IT IN RED!
THEN WHAT ABOUT THE OUTSIDE!?
ズズ…
FOR EXAMPLE, SOMEONE COULD USE A LADDER TO CLIMB TO THE WINDOW OF THE SECOND FLOOR!
THERE IS A WAY TO REACH THE SECOND FLOOR THAT DOESN'T INVOLVE THE LOUNGE!

THIS WAY IT'S POSSIBLE TO REACH THE CRIME SCENE BYPASSING YOUR OBSERVATION!
CORRECT.
THAT WAS A REAL PROBLEM IT'S POSSIBLE TO USE A LADDER OR CLIMB A NEARBY TREE
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS RAINING HEAVILY. IT WASN'T IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH THE SECOND FLOOR THAT WAY
HOWEVER
I
WILL NOT

ALLOW THAT.
SHE FORESAW THIS MOVE. HOW FRIGHT-ENING.
SO...
OBSTINATE!
HOW COULD THAT...
YES THE GUESTHOUSE IS CONSTRUCTED SO THAT THE ONLY WAY TO GET TO THE SECOND FLOOR FROM THE OUTSIDE IS TO GO THROUGH A WINDOW.
THE LOCKS ARE IRRE-LEVANT TOO.
I JUST...
NEED-ED TO PROVE ....
THAT THE WINDOWS AND THE SHUTTERS WERE NEVER OPENED.

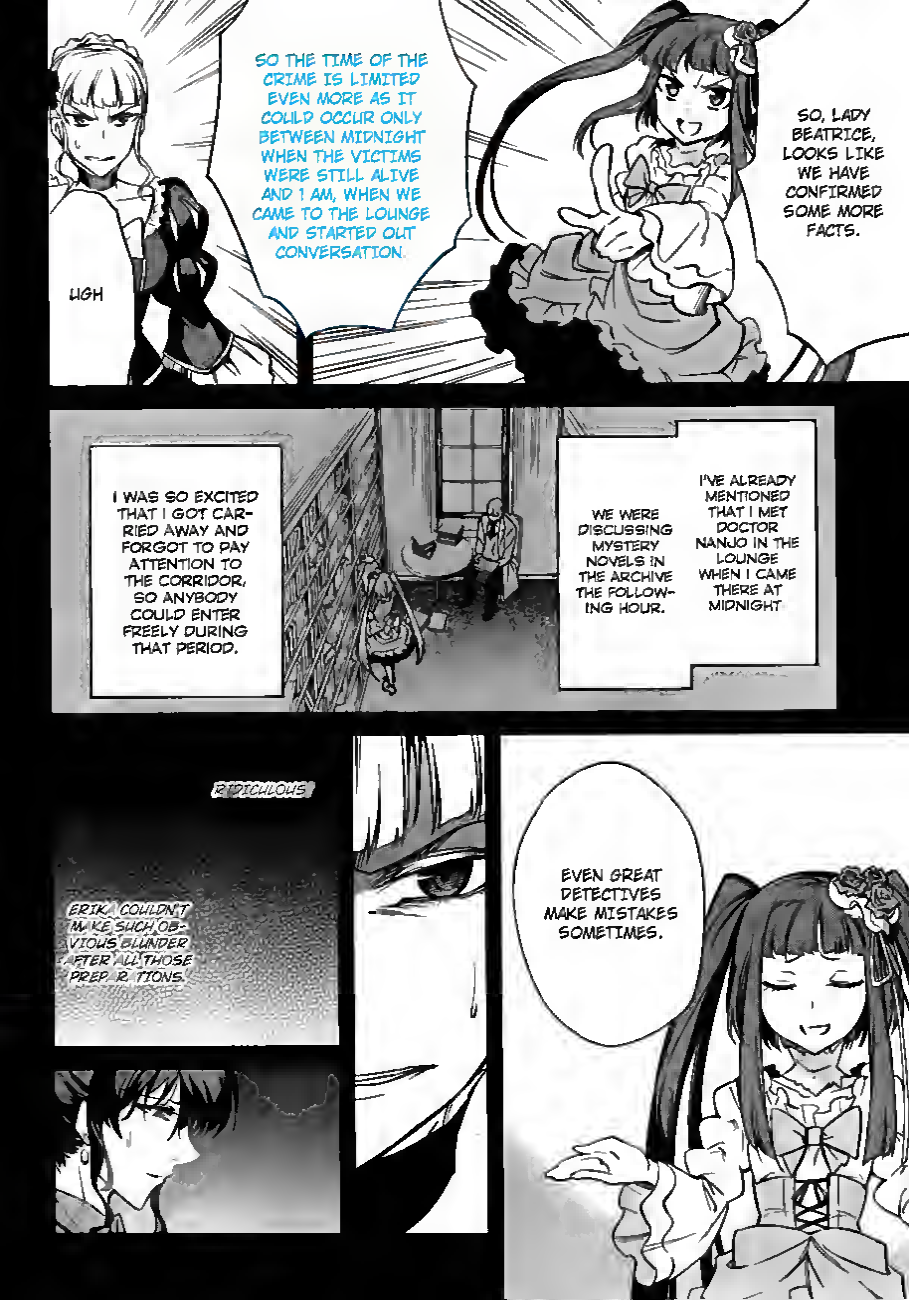

HOWEVER, SINCE ERIKA WAS WATCHING THE LOUNGE THE WHOLE TIME...
IT'S IMPOSSI-BLE!
I ACCEPT THIS, ERIKA. YOUR SEALS ARE PERFECT.
THE ONLY WAY TO GET TO THE SECOND FLOOR FROM THE INSIDE IS THROUGH THE LOUNGE.
SO I JUST SEALED ALL THE WIN-DOWS WITH DUCT TAPE!
MY MASTER!

DID YOU REALLY...
PUT A SEAL ON EVERY WINDOW?
DURING THAT STORM?
IN THIS OUTFIT?
YES. AFTER I RETURNED FROM THE ROOM WITH THE GOLD I EXAMINED THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GUESTHOUSE FROM THE OUTSIDE
I had my swimsuit from the time I drifted here.
YOU'RE CRAZY.
SHE WAS A GUEST IN THE HOUSE, AND NOTHING HAD ACTUALLY HAPPENED AT THAT POINT.
SHE CLIMBED THE WALLS UNDER THE RAIN.
AND PUT SEALS ON ALL WINDOWS OF BOTH FLOORS.
STUCK TO THE WALL IN THE DARKNESS.
SHE'S LIKE A POISONOUS SPIDER.

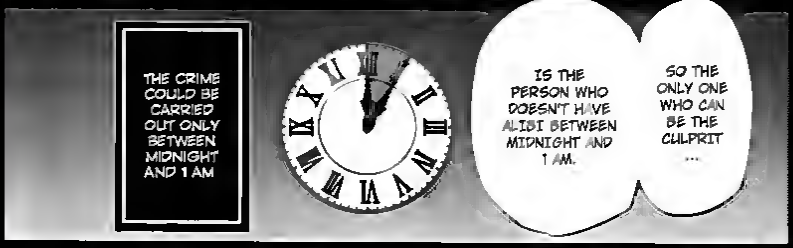
A DIS-
GUSTING
EERIE
SPIDER...
CRAWLING
THE WALLS
DURING THE
STORM.

FOR A DETECTIVE THIS IS NOTHING MORE THAN A CRIME SCENE
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT WE SAVED YOU?
JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY?
IF A DETECTIVE DOESN'T PREPARE TO THE CULPRIT, I THINK HE'S THIRD-RATE.
AFTER THAT I HAVE TO DEVOTE MYSELF TO COLLECTING AND VERIFYING POSSIBLE ALIBIS.
BEFORE THE CRIME OCCURS, I HAVE TO REMEMBER THE NAMES OF ALL THE ACTING PERSONS AND THE LAYOUT OF THE PLACE OF ACTION.
AFTER ALL, I KNEW THAT SOMEONE WOULD DIE DURING THE NIGHT.

I DON'T NEED TO EXAMINE THE CORPSES WHEN I CAN GET CONFIRMATIONS IN RED
IT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO CHECK THE SEALS TO VERIFY THE ALIBIS
MY MASTER IS PERFECT! I JUST HAD TO PROVE EVERYTHING BY FOLLOWING HER ORDERS.
AND WHEN THE CRIME WAS DISCOVERED, ERIKA CHECKED THAT ALL HER SEALS WERE INTACT...
THAT'S THE REASON WHY ERIKA WHO HAD BEEN OBSERVING THE COUSINS' ROOM THE WHOLE NIGHT WAS THE LAST TO APPEAR THERE IN THE MORNING...
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH THE SECOND FLOOR WITHOUT PASSING THE LOUNGE.
EXCELLENT, ERIKA!
MY DOUBLE, MY PIECE!


SO, LADY BEATRICE, LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE CONFIRMED SOME MORE FACTS.
SO THE TIME OF THE CRIME IS LIMITED EVEN MORE AS IT COULD OCCUR ONLY BETWEEN MIDNIGHT WHEN THE VICTIMS WERE STILL ALIVE AND I AM, WHEN WE CAME TO THE LOUNGE AND STARTED OUT CONVERSATION.
HIGH
I'VE ALREADY MENTIONED THAT I MET DOCTOR NANJO IN THE LOUNGE WHEN I CAME THERE AT MIDNIGHT
WE WERE DISCUSSING MYSTERY NOVELS IN THE ARCHIVE THE FOLLOWING HOUR.
I WAS SO EXCITED THAT I GOT CARRIED AWAY AND FORGOT TO PAY ATTENTION TO THE CORRIDOR, SO ANYBODY COULD ENTER FREELY DURING THAT PERIOD.
EVEN GREAT DETECTIVES MAKE MISTAKES SOMETIMES.
RIDICULOUS
ERIKA COULDN'T MAKE SUCH OBVIOUS BLUNDER AFTER ALL THOSE PREPARATIONS!

SHE WANTS TO PROVE THAT ONLY NATSUHI HAS NO ALIBI FOR THAT ONE HOUR.
IT'S A TRAP!


THE CRIME COULD BE CARRIED OUT ONLY BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 1 AM
IS THE PERSON WHO DOESN'T HAVE ALIBI BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 1 AM.
SO THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN BE THE CULPRIT ...

LET'S GO ON AND DISCUSS THE ALIBIS OF THE PEOPLE WHO WERE IN THE MANSION.
MY MASTER HAS ALREADY GIVEN US SOME RED TRUTH ABOUT THAT!
THIS IS BAD. THE LONG NIGHT HAS BEEN REDUCED TO A SINGLE HOUR.
THAT MERE HUMAN DARES...

AT MIDNIGHT NATSUHI, KRAUSS AND GENJI WERE ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE MANSION IN THE CORRIDOR, EVERYONE ELSE WAS IN THE DINING ROOM.
AS YOU PROBABLY REMEMBER, THERE WAS A MYSTERIOUS KNOCK AND A LETTER WITH THE ONE-WINGED EAGLE'S SEAL APPEARED.
AND THEN THE DISCUSSION OF THIS EVENT CONTINUED UNTIL 1 AM.

ALL THE PEOPLE WHO WERE IN THE DINING ROOM REMAINED THERE UNTIL 1 AM!
KYYX

EXCEPT NATSUHI, KRAUSS AND GENJI, EVERYBODY ELSE COULDN'T LEAVE THE MANSION UNTIL 1 A.M.
SINCE THE MURDERS WERE CARRIED OUT FROM MIDNIGHT AND BEFORE 1 AM
PEOPLE IN THE DINING ROOM COULD NOT BE GUILTY!
HOW CAN YOU PROVE THAT?
ERIKA WAS IN THE GUEST-HOUSE! DID SOMEONE ELSE PUT YOUR FAVORITE DUCT TAPE ON THE DOOR OF THE DINING ROOM!?
I CAN'T ACCEPT YOUR EXPLANATION!

THAT'S ...
...
RED TRUTH IS SIMPLY THE TRUTH, THERE'S NO NEED TO PROVE IT OR GIVE ANY REASONING!
THE RULE YOU INTRODUCED YOURSELF! HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!

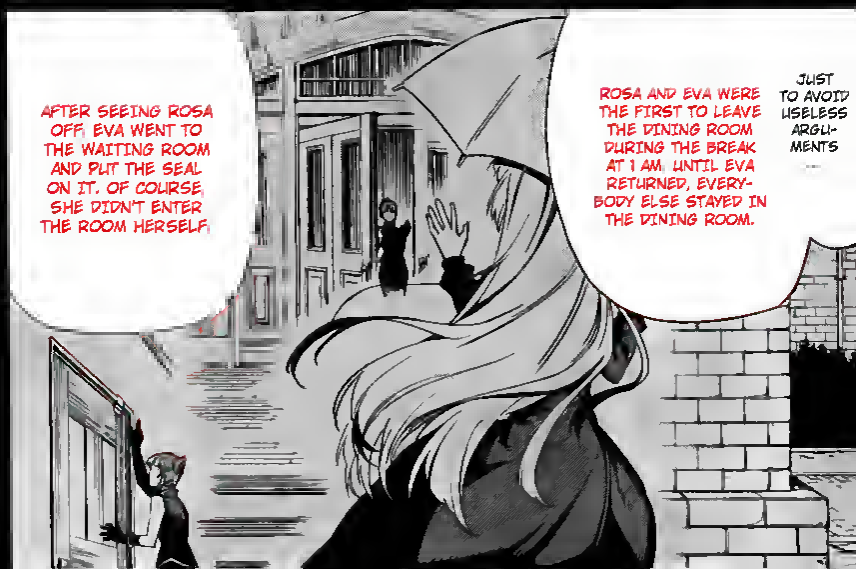
NOW LET'S TALK ABOUT GENJI.
NOW, THERE ARE ONLY TWO PEOPLE, EXCEPT N. TSUHI, WHO HAVE NO ALIBI: KR. WSS AND GENJI.
IS IT POSSIBLE THAT GENJI IS THE CULPRIT?
MOREOVER HE WAS IN THE COR RIDOR AT MID- NIGHT BUT THEN HE WENT TO THE SERVANTS' ROOM TO ANSWER THE PHONE CALL FOR NATSUHI.
HE IS ALSO A VICTIM, BUT WE CAN'T RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE KILLED THE PEOPLE IN THE COUSINS ROOM AND THEN DIED HIMSELF.
SO GENJI CAN BE THE CULPRIT TOO!
I'LL SAY IT IN RED.

AFTER ANSWERING THE PHONE, GENJI WENT STRAIGHT TO THE WAITING ROOM
THERE'S NO PROOF, EVIDENCE, SEAL OR ALIBI, IT'S JUST A SIMPLE TRUTH
RIGHT?
AND THEN WHEN THERE WAS A BREAK IN THE CONFERENCE AT 1 AM AND ROSA DECIDED TO RETURN TO THE GUESTHOUSE.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COOPE-RATION...
USHIROMIYA EVA, STAND UP, PLEASE!

SHE SUGGESTED USING THE DUCT TAPE TO ME, SO WE JOINED FORCES IN ORDER TO CHECK ALIBIS OF SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE
IT'S NOT JUST ERIKA, I ALSO HAD A FEELING SOMETHING WAS GOING TO HAPPEN DURING THE NIGHT.
AT 1 AM DURING THE BREAK I WENT TO GENJI'S ROOM AND SEALED IT JUST LIKE ERIKA.
AS IT WAS INTACT.
IT MEANS THAT FROM 1 AM AND UNTIL MORNING NOBODY COULD ENTER OR EXIT THAT ROOM.
NEXT, KANON AND KUMASAWA'S TURN TO SPEAK.

WE THOUGHT IT WAS SOMEONE'S PRANK.
YES. AT THAT MOMENT, WE DIDN'T CARE MUCH ABOUT THE SEAL.
IN THE MORNING YOU NOTICED THE DUCT TAPE ON GENJI'S DOOR, BUT YOU STILL DECIDED TO OPEN IT, CORRECT?

GENJI WAS KILLED BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 1 AM.
EVA SEALED GENJI'S ROOM AT 1 AM, AND THE SEAL WAS BROKEN WHEN KANON AND KUMASAWA DISCOVERED THE MURDER IN THE MORNING.
I'LL CONFIRM THE TESTIMONIES OF EVA, KANON AND KUMASAWA WITH RED TRUTH


AFTER SEEING ROSA OFF, EVA WENT TO THE WAITING ROOM AND PUT THE SEAL ON IT. OF COURSE, SHE DIDN'T ENTER THE ROOM HERSELF.
ROSA AND EVA WERE THE FIRST TO LEAVE THE DINING ROOM DURING THE BREAK AT 1 AM. UNTIL EVA RETURNED, EVERYBODY ELSE STAYED IN THE DINING ROOM.
JUST TO AVOID USELESS ARGUMENTS

AFTER ALL, KINZO'S STUDY IS A TREASURE VAULT WITH ALL KINDS OF DRUGS!
I HAVE OBTAINED ALL KINDS OF RESULTS TO CREATE AN ULTIMATE TRUTH, INFINITELY CLOSE TO A RED TRUTH. THIS ISN'T A SCIENCE MYSTERY, SO I'LL SPARE YOU THE DETAILS.
THIS IS ALL TESTIMONIES GATHERED FROM THE PEOPLE INVOLVED. IT ISN'T A RED TRUTH WITHOUT A BASIS.
NOT ONLY TESTIMONY, BUT THE LATEST SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS SUCH AS COLLECTING FINGERPRINTS WERE USED HERE.
NOTHING CAN OBSTRUCT THE DETECTIVE'S INVESTIGATION.
DETECTIVE'S AUTHORITY
GIVING SHELTER TO A DETECTIVE IS ONE OF THE WORST OMENS OF MISFORTUNE.
YOU ARE WELCOME.
FROM NOW ON, I'LL TELL EVERYONE NOT TO WELCOME PEOPLE WHO CLAIM TO BE A DETECTIVES
YOU ACT LIKE YOU OWN THE PLACE

SO WE HAVE PROVED THAT THE CULPRIT WHO KILLED GENJI COULD ONLY ENTER HIS ROOM BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 1 AM.
AND ACCORDING TO ERIKA'S INVESTIGATION, IN WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GENJI TO REACH THE COUSINS' ROOM
GENJI DIDN'T LEAVE THE MANSION AFTER MIDNIGHT
GENJI HAS AN ALIBI.
SO, WHO IS LEFT?
A-HA!

IT'S ONLY KRAUSS AND NATSUHI!
EVERYBODY ELSE'S ALIBI HAS BEEN PROVED!
NO... WAY...

HUH ...
USHI-ROMIYA NATSUHI.
THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE
ADMIT THAT ALL THE CRIMES WERE COMMITTED BY YOUR HUSBAND.
...?
NEVER!
DO I LOOK LIKE A PERSON WHO WOULD MALIGN HER OWN HUSBAND?

THEN...
BEATO NATSUHI HAS REFUSED I'LL GIVE THE SAME CHANCE TO YOU
DO YOU UNDER-ST IND?
COULD KRAUSS COMMIT THE CRIME?
UGH
UGH
HOWEVER, THEY WERE TRANSFORMED INTO RED TRUTH!
NORMALLY I WOULD BE ABLE TO COUNTER ERIKA'S ALIBIS SOMEHOW.

THOSE DAMN WITCHES ARE SETTING EVERYTHING TO GO THIS WAY!
IT'S GOING JUST AS ERIKA PLANNED.
INDEED ...
EVEN IF THE 'LAST TRUTH' IS NOT CORRECT, AS LONG AS EVERYTHING COMES TOGETHER, IT'S WORTH THE SAME AS THE REAL TRUTH.
AS LONG AS LADY LAMBDADELTA, THE GAME MASTER, ACCEPTS SOMETHING, IT BECOMES THE T RUTH AND IS USED AS BASIS FOR THE NEXT WORLDS.
WHICH OF THESE TWO TRUTHS DO YOU BELIEVE IN?
YOU HAVE TO DECIDE YOURSELF, BATTLER.

AUNT NATSUHI FELL INTO A MEAN TRAP
ERIKA CONSTRUCTED HER REASONING BASED ON NATSUHI BEING GUILTY
SO INTENTIONALLY OR NOT...
ERIKA BECOMES AN ACCOMPLICE OF THE CRIME
I DON'T LIKE THIS.
IF NOBODY WANTS TO BELIEVE AUNT NATSUHI, I WILL!

DOES SOMETHING BECOME TRUE JUST BECAUSE EVERYBODY AGREES WITH IT?
WILL A LIE THAT EVERY-ONE ACCEPTS BECOME THE TRUTH?
THE REAL TRUTH DOESN'T REQUIRE ANYONE TO ACKNOW-LEDGE IT!
IT'S SOMETHING YOU REACH AFTER THO-ROUGHLY EXAMINING ALL POSSI-BILITIES!
CAN THE SINGLE HONEST PERSON BE BROUGHT TO THE GUILLOTINE BECAUSE HE WAS SLANDER-ED BY LIARS?
THIS WHOLE COURT IS FULL OF LIES!

BEATO IS DESPERATELY TRYING TO PROTECT NATSUHI?
ITS ONLY PURPOSE IS TO LEGITIMATE THE SENTENCE FOR NATSUHI!
NO, BEATO IS JUST PLEADING.
IT'S ONLY AN EXCUSE.
ONE CAN JUST CREATE A DIFFERENT TRUTH.
AND PERSUADE THE RULER OF THE GAME, LAMBDADELTA, THAT HIS TRUTH IS BETTER THAN ERIKA'S.
TO WIN IN THIS COURT, ONE DOESN'T NEED TO FIND FLAWS IN THE OPPONENT'S REASONING.
I...
WITHOUT VIOLATING LADY BERNKASTEL'S RED TRUTH?
CAN YOU SPIN THE TRUTH TO SHOW NATSUHI INNOCENT

IF THEY CLAIM IN RED THAT NATSUHI IS THE CULPRIT, WILL YOU STILL DOUBT IT?
AS LONG AS AUNT NATSUHI IS SPARED FROM FALSE ACCUSATIONS BASED ON FAKE TRUTH!
I DON'T CARE EVEN IF THE CULPRIT IS A WITCH.
I DON'T KNOW. BUT AS LONG AS I DON'T BELIEVE IN NATSUHI'S GUILT, ANOTHER TRUTH SHOULD EXIST!
YES. IF NOBODY BELIEVES, I WILL!
MATERIAL PROOFS ARE NOT ENOUGH. THE REAL TRUTH
I WILL BELIEVE!
APPEARS ONLY WHEN A BELIEVER AND A SKEPTIC LOOK AT THE MATTER TOGETHER.

YOU CAN TRY TO CONVINCE ME THAT AUNT NATSUHI IS GUILTY AS MUCH AS YOU WANT, I'LL BELIEVE SHE IS INNOCENT!
I WON'T ABANDON MY POSI-TION!
VERY WELL...

POWER?
JUST A SINGLE POWER...
I'LL GIVE YOU THIS PRESENT BECAUSE YOU HAVE A STEEL WILL TO FIGHT
THEN I'LL GIVE YOU A SINGLE RED TRUTH
IN THE NAME OF VIRGILIA, THE FINITE WITCH
NO, AS THE FORMER WITCH BEATRICE .
I'LL GRANT YOU THIS RED TRUTH.

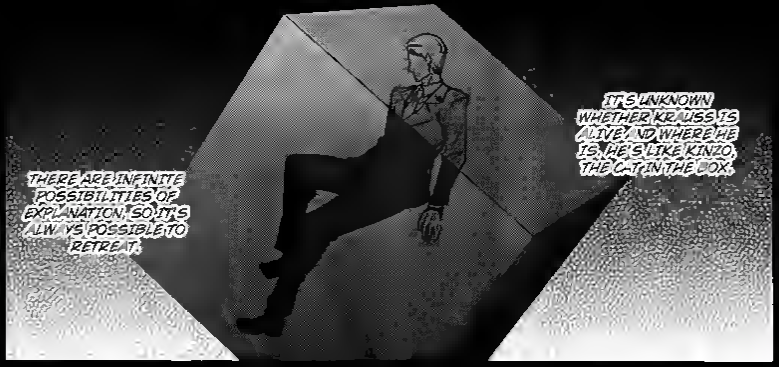
USHIROMIYA NATSUHI IS NOT THE CULPRIT
SAVE NATSUHI WITH THIS TRUTH!
Joker 9 月号へつづく 8月22日(水)発売

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU AREN'T GOING TO SUPPORT UMINEKO BUYING THE MANGA?

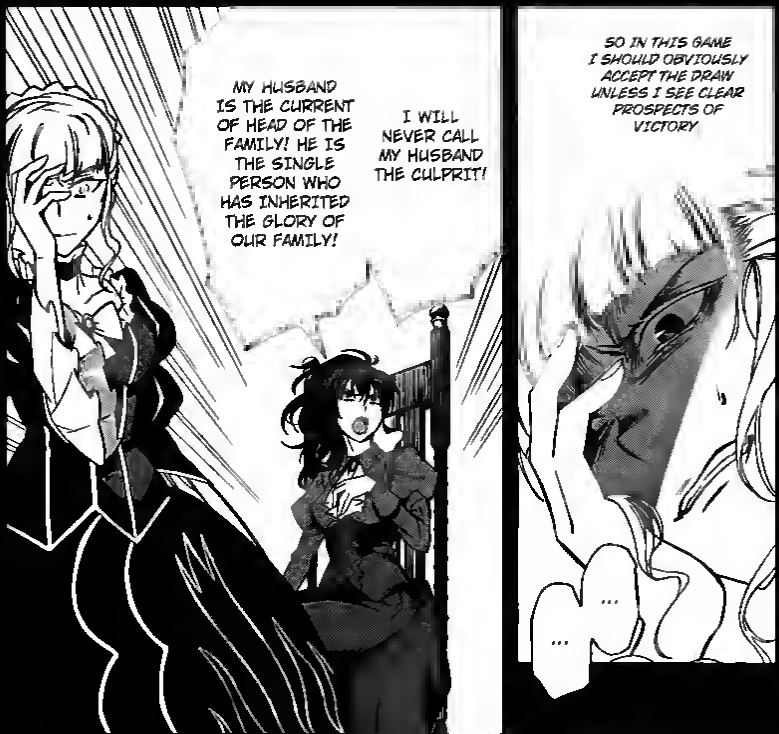
WTDND
GROUP
Translation: leopard
Cleaning: Nabiki Asakura
Typesetting: Michalv
http://wtdnd.wordpress.com/

I OFFER YOU A PLEA BARGAIN
ADMIT THAT KRAUSS IS THE CULPRIT, AND ERIKA WILL STOP PURSUING NATSUHI
SHE'LL START AN INQUIRY OF KRAUSS WHOSE WHEREABOUTS ADE UNKNOWN
THE INTENSE MOMENT...

ISN'T NATSUHI IN TROUBLE? DO YOU ACCEPT THE BARGAIN?
ABANDON THE PRIDE OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY, AND THE GAME WILL BECOME A DRAW
IT'S BERN'S KIND PROPOSAL.


THERE ARE INFINITE POSSIBILITIES OF EXPLANATION, SO IT'S ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO RETREAT.
IT'S UNKNOWN WHETHER KIRIUSU IS ALIVE, AND WHERE HE IS. HE'S LIKE KINJO, THE CAT IN THE BOX.

DEFEAT MEANS DEATH FOR ME.


MY HUSBAND IS THE CURRENT OF HEAD OF THE FAMILY! HE IS THE SINGLE PERSON WHO HAS INHERITED THE GLORY OF OUR FAMILY!
I WILL NEVER CALL MY HUSBAND THE CULPRIT!
SO IN THIS GAME I SHOULD OBVIOUSLY ACCEPT THE DRAW UNLESS I SEE CLEAR PROSPECTS OF VICTORY
...
...

ARE YOU SURE, NATSUHI?
IT'S UNHEARD OF FOR SUCH PERSON TO BEAR THE INFAMY OF CRIME!
IF WE DON'T TRY TO SUSPECT KRAUSS, YOU WILL BE THE ONLY ONE LEFT.
HEMPEL'S RAVEN EVERYONE ELSE'S ALIBI HAS BEEN PROVED.
THEY CAN RULE YOU GUILTY WITHOUT ANY DIRECT PROOF.
WHAT IF I AM THE ONLY ONE LEFT?
I'M USHIROMIYA NATSUHI. I'M NOT GOING TO RUN OR HIDE!
I'M INNOCENT! I BEAR THE CARVE OF THE ONE-WINGED EAGLE IN MY HEART, AND I'M SUBSTITUTING THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY!

うみねこのなく頃に

Episode 5 : End of the golden witch

CHAPTER 23. ADJOURN

©竜騎士07/07th Expansion

原作・監修：竜騎士07　作画：秋夕力

NATSUHI REJECTS THE BARGAIN
BEATO?
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
AT THE DESIGNATED MOMENT, LAMBDA WILL PROCLAIM HER JUDGMENT ON NATSUHI
DO YOU WANT TO GO TO FALL TO THE DEPTHS OF HELL BECAUSE OF NATSUHI'S STUBBORNNESS?
AT THAT MOMENT, THE ILLUSION OF THE WITCH WILL BE DENIED AND YOU WILL DIS-

RICHE, YOU'VE FOUGHT WELL.
THE MOMENT HAS COME TO PERSUADE NATSUHI TO ACCEPT THE LAST-MINUTE COMPROMISE PLAN.
THE ENEMY OF LADY LAMBDADELTA AND LADY BERNKASTEL IS NOT YOU, IT'S BOREDOM.
THEY PROBABLY WANT TO REPEAT THE GAME ONCE AGAIN.
IF I DECIDE TO REPLAY THE GAME, WHAT WILL HAPPEN...
TO NATSUHI IN THIS FRAGMENT?
YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT NOW! NATSUHI IS JUST A MERE PIECE!
SHE'LL BE ERASED IN THIS GAME AND PUT ON THE BOARD IN THE NEXT ONE!
MILADY, THIS WON'T DO...

SORRY, I CAN'T DO THAT.
I KNOW THE STRENGTH OF THE MAN WHO CONTINUED TO BELIEVE EVEN WHEN EVERYONE SAID HE WAS WRONG
AND I KNOW THE SUFFERING HE WENT THROUGH WHEN HE WAS FORCED TO ABANDON THAT BELIEF!
THE TRUTH CAN BE FOUND ONLY IF YOU FIND BALANCE BETWEEN TRUST AND SUSPICION!
I WON'T ABANDON NATSUHI!
WHY?
BECAUSE IF EVERYONE SUSPECTS NATSUHI, SOMEONE MUST STILL BELIEVE HER!
IF EVERYONE IS SURE THAT NATSUHI IS GUILTY...
I'LL STILL CLAIM THAT THE CULPRIT IS A WITCH!
IF I CAN'T CLAIM IT, MY EXISTENCE WILL HAVE NO VALUE!

I CAN'T LOSE.
TRUTH ISN'T SOMETHING ANYONE CAN DENY!
IT DISAP-PEARS THE MOMENT YOU THROW IT AWAY!!
IF YOU DOUBT IT YOUR-SELF...

BEATO, IS THIS YOUR ANSWER?
OF COURSE I REFUSE!
USHIROMIYA KRAUSS IS NOT THE CULPRIT!
USHIROMIYA KRAUSS IS NOT THE CULPRIT.

IDIOT.
YOU HAVE NO TURNING BACK NOW
NOW YOU'LL RECEIVE THE RETRIBUTION SUITABLE FOR A SHORT-TEMPERED IDIOT LIKE YOU.
IN THE NAME OF BERNKASTEL, THE WITCH OF MIRACLES, I GIVE THE RED TRUTH.
USHIROMIYA KRAUSS IS NOT THE CULPRIT.
HE IS ALREADY DEAD.
HE WAS KILLED SOON AFTER YOU GOT THE TELEPHONE CALL.

NO WAY...
DE...
DEAR ...
UGH ...
AHHH ...

BUT NOW I'M NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO HOPE!
I WAS DYING FROM ANXIETY BECAUSE I DIDN'T KNOW IF HE WAS ALIVE.
NATSUHI ...
THIS IS CRUEL!
...!
NATSUHI'S HEART ISN'T BROKEN YET.
SINCE YOU HAVE LOST YOUR HUSBAND...
SO...
NOW YOU ARE THE LAST PERSON STANDING UP FOR THE HONOR OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY.

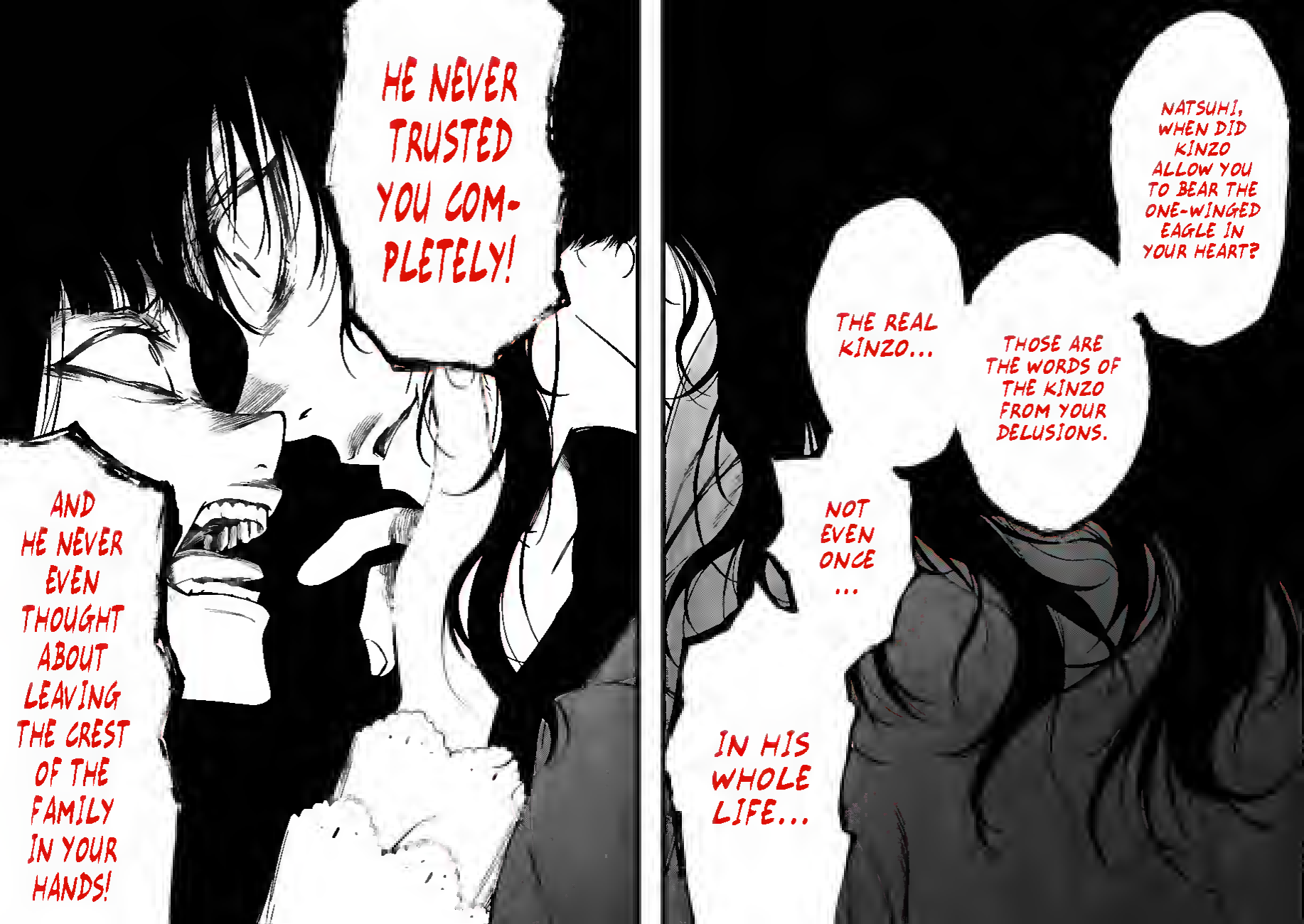
IT'S CONFIRMED IN RED THAT ALL OTHER PEOPLE FROM THE DINING ROOM DIDN'T LEAVE IT BEFORE 1 AM.
NOT YET! EVEN IF SHE HAS NO ALIBI, NATSUHI...
NO, IT'S OVER.
SO THE ALIBIS OF EVERYONE EXCEPT NATSUHI IS PROVED!
EXCEPT NATSUHI, EVERYONE IN THE MANSION HAS AN ALIBI.

EXCELLENT, ERIKA, BERNKASTEL!
YOU HAVE SHOWN THAT THE CRIME IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVERYONE EXCEPT NATSUHI!
AND NOW THAT THE DEATH OF KRAUSS IS CONFIRMED ...
UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANYONE BUT NATSUHI TO KILL KRAUSS!
I'LL READ THE VERDICT

BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 1 AM, ON THE 5TH OF OCTOBER 1986, KRAUSS, GEORGE, JESSICA, MARIA, ROSA AND GENJI WERE KILLED ONE AFTER ANOTHER.
THE ONLY PERSON WHO DOESN'T HAVE AN ALIBI AND COULD COMMIT THESE CRIMES IS USHIROMIYA NATSUHI.
THE TIME FRAME OF THE CRIME IS STRICTLY BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 1 AM
HENCE SHE WILL BE TREATED AS THE CULPRIT OF THE GAME FROM NOW ON.
AS IT HAS BEEN PROVED THAT THE CRIME IS THE WORK OF A HUMAN.
ENDLESS WITCH BEATRICE!
THE COURT OF ILLUSIONS PROCLAIMS THAT YOUR EXISTENCE IS DENIED FROM NOW ON!

I STILL BELIEVE IN NATSUHI'S INNOCENCE WITHOUT ANY PROOFS OF ALIBI!
OR EVEN SHOW THAT SOMEONE ELSE COULD COMMIT THE CRIME?
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO PLEAD, BUT CAN YOU PROVE NATSUHI'S ALIBI?
MY HEART WON'T BREAK NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU TRY TO DISGRACE ME!
SINCE MY HUSBAND IS DEAD, I AM NOW THE HEAD OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY!
EVEN WITHOUT PROOFS ...
SHOUT WHATEVER YOU WANT.
MOST OF ALL I LIKE WHEN WITCHES SOB AND BEG FOR THEIR LIFE BEFORE BEING BURNED AT THE STAKE.
THE SYMBOL OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY IS IMMORTAL!
THE ONE-WINGED EAGLE IN MY HEART, INHERITED FROM THE FATHER, WON'T BE DESTROYED BY YOUR ALIBIS AND PROOFS!

I LOVE KILLING THOSE WHO BLUFF LIKE YOU
SO MY LAST PRESENT FOR YOU WILL BE THE RED TRUTH THAT WILL DESTROY YOUR BLUFF ENTIRELY.
WH...
WHAT?
STOP ...
STOP, BERN-KASTEL.
THE TRUTH YOU WANT HAS ALREADY BEEN ACCEPTED.
YOUR TRUTH SHOULDN'T CONTRADICT NATSUHI'S...
PLEASE DON'T DISHONOR HER.
PLEASE...


HE NEVER TRUSTED YOU COMPLETELY!
AND HE NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT LEAVING THE CREST OF THE FAMILY IN YOUR HANDS!
NATSUHI, WHEN DID KINZO ALLOW YOU TO BEAR THE ONE-WINGED EAGLE IN YOUR HEART?
THOSE ARE THE WORDS OF THE KINZO FROM YOUR DELUSIONS.
THE REAL KINZO...
NOT EVEN ONCE ...
IN HIS WHOLE LIFE...

NOBODY CAN DISGRACE THE CREST IN YOUR HEART! IT BELONGS ONLY TO YOU!
NAT-SUHI! DON'T LISTEN!
DON'T FORGET THE PRIDE OF THE LAST HEAD OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY!
NATSUHI-IIIIIII-IIII!!
YOU ARE ANNOYING. DISAPPEAR. NATSUHI'S DELUSION.

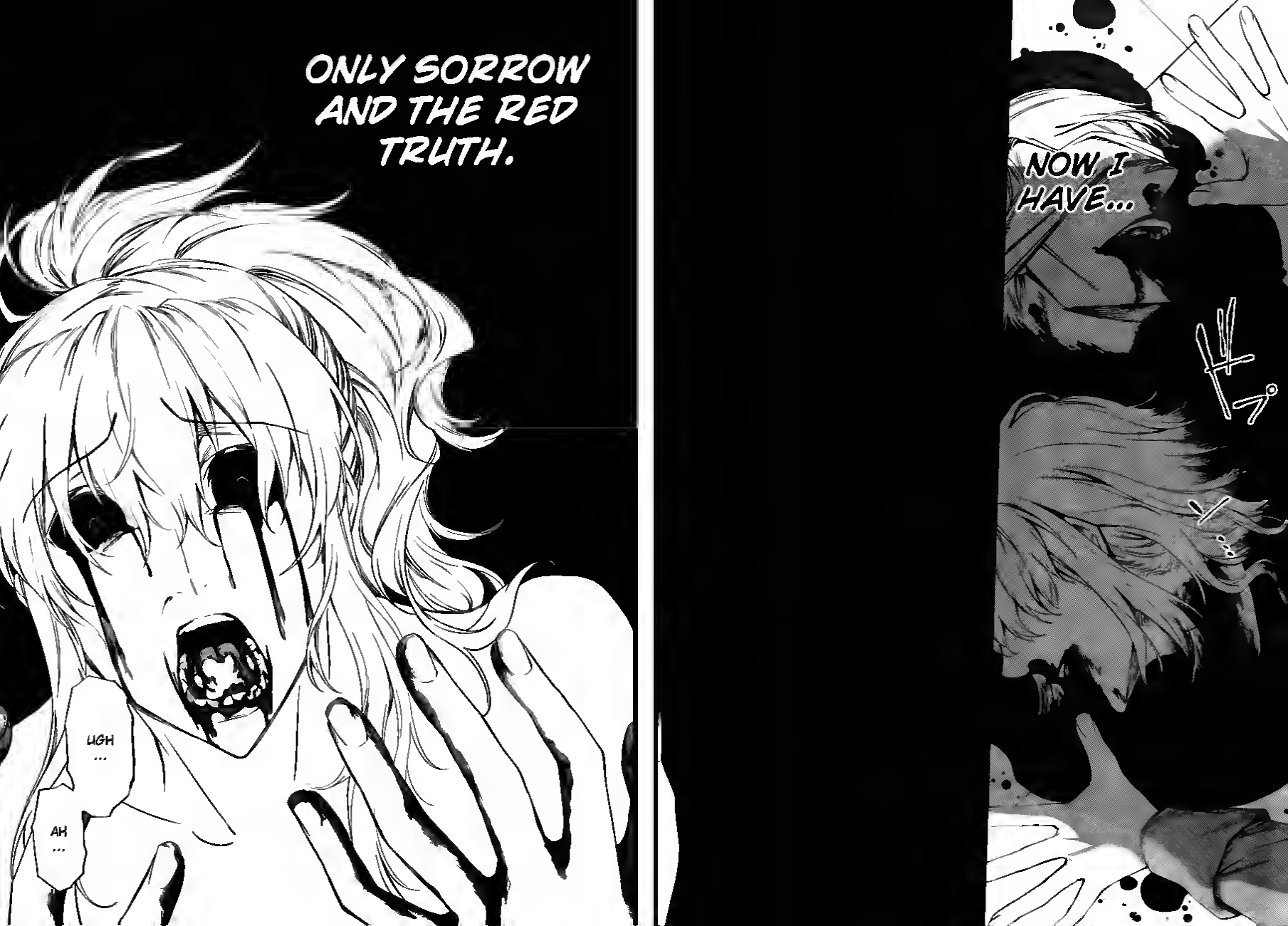
AS LONG AS NATSUHI CARRIES THE CREST!
UOOOOO OOOOOO OOOOH!
MY SOUL WON'T DISAP-PEAR!
IMAGINARY KINZO, CREATED BY NATSUHI...
FOR HER OWN CONVENIENCE
LYING ILLUSION
THE REAL KINZO WOULD NEVER SAY THIS
DISAPPEAR
AH—
NATSUHI...

FATHER
...
FA...
...
PATHETIC WOMAN
HAVE A LOOK AT THE TRUTH YOU HAVE NEVER ACHIEVED...
THE TRUST OF USHIROMIYA KINZO

AH...

I...
DEFI-
NITELY
BEAR
THE
CREST
OF THE
FAMILY
HE DIDN'T
ENTRUST
IT..!
ヨロ..
ヨロ..
HE NEVER
ENTRUSTED
IT TO HER
...
AND
EVEN...
HE
NEVER EVEN
GREETED
HER...
AVOIDED
LOOKING
HER IN
THE EYE.
ドチャッ

...MONG THOSE...
BUT, I ENDURED FOR THE SAKE OF THE FAMILY I MARRIED IN.
SOME DAYS WERE PAINFUL, SOME WERE SHAMEFUL.
THERE WERE HAPPY DAYS TOO.


ONLY SORROW AND THE RED TRUTH.
UGH ...
AH ...
NOW I HAVE...

UAAAAAAAAA
AAAAARGG
GGGGHHH!!
THAT'S IT.
ス…
JUST BECAUSE THE CASE EXISTS...

WHAT DO YOU THINK, EVERYONE?
THIS LEVEL OF REASONING IS POSSIBLE FOR FURUDO ERIKA!
パチ
パチ
パチ

I'M THE RULER OF ROKKENJIMA'S NIGHT AND I HAVE REIGNED SINCE LONG BEFORE THE TIME YOU WERE ALL STILL SCARED OF THE DARK!
NATSUHI IS INNOCENT! I'M THE GOLDEN WITCH BEATRICE!
WHY DON'T YOU BELIEVE IN MY GUILT? WHY DO YOU SUSPECT NATSUHI?
ACKNOWLEDGE ME!
EVERYTHING IS MY DOING!
I WON'T ALLOW...
ANY HUMAN TO BE THE CULPRIT!

NOBODY CAN HEAR YOU
YOU'RE JUST AN ILLUSION. WELCOME BACK TO YOUR BEING A SIMPLE PORTRAIT!
YOU ARE AN ILLUSION OF THE WITCH, BORN WHEN KINZO SHARED HIS DREAM WITH HIS FAMILY.
SUCH IS THE TRUTH THAT THE WORLD CHOSE!
LADY LAMBDADELTA! LET THIS STUPID GHOST NAMING ITSELF A WITCH LEAVE THE PREMISES!
FAREWELL, BEATRICE
I MADE YOU A WITCH SO THAT YOU COULD BECOME MY FRIEND OR FREE ME FROM BOREDOM
AND YOU ANSWERED ONE OF THESE EX-PECTATIONS.

THE SECOND ONE!
I AM... A WITCH...
EVEN IF LADY LAMBDADELTA DOESN'T ACKNOWLEDGE IT.
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BELIEVE IT EVEN IF I HADN'T BECOME YOUR GUARDIAN.
IT'S GAME OVER FOR YOU.
I'LL ERASE YOU ACCORDING TO THE RULES YOU'VE SET ON YOUR GAMEBOARD
WHAT HAPPENED WITH LOSERS IN YOUR GAME?
BEATO HAS SHOWN IT IN ONE OF THE PREVIOUS GAMES.

WHA
YOU'LL BECOME A LIVING LUMP OF MEAT AND WILL BE SERVED AS THE DINNER TO THE GOATS WHO WILL DEVOUR YOU.

A FITTING END FOR YOU, BEATRICE.
I DID ALL OF THIS JUST TO LISTEN TO THE CRIES OF THE DEATH AGONY OF AN ARROGANT PERSON LIKE YOU!
HA-HA-HA-HA
I'VE HAD THIS PLAN FOR A LONG TIME!
YES. IF YOU COULDN'T ENTERTAIN US WELL ENOUGH...
WE PLANNED TO MAKE YOU KILL OUR BOREDOM BY SACRIFICING YOUR FLESH.
SHOW US SOME AWESOME SCREAMS
YOU ARE LIKE A BOTTLE OF WINE KEPT SPECIFICALLY FOR THIS DAY.

MY LAST RETORT WILL BE DESTROYING YOUR EXPECT-ATIONS!
THEN...
HUH.
HA!
HA-HA-HA!
HA-HA-HA-HA!!
GREAT!
YOU SAID IT!
HI-HI-HI-HI!
THE GREATEST PLEASURE IS TO LISTEN TO YOUR SCREAMS AFTER A PROCLAMA-TION LIKE THIS!

BEA-
FALL!
TRICE!!
HA
HA-
HA
HA-
HA
HA-
HA-
HA

HA-
HA...
HA-
HA...

HA
HA
HA

LET'S TEAR HER UP.
SHE'S TOO BIG FOR US TO SWALLOW.

AND THEN SWALLOW EVERYTHING.
THIS IS A BIT DIFFICULT.
LET'S FIRST TEAR HER INTO SMALL PIECES!
LET'S TEAR HER UP.
パァ…
LET'S TEAR HER UP.
LET'S TEAR HER UP.

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

HEAD INQUISITOR OF HERESY, DLANOR.

I APOLOGIZE FOR INTERRUPTING YOU.
うぅ…
ガクッ
ゲーム…
THERE IS A PERSON WHO HAS OBJECTIONS TO THE VERDICT.
HIS [illegible] OF...
USHIROMIYA BATTLER.

WHAT ARE YOU DISPLEASED WITH IN THE DECISION OF THE COURT?
DO YOU WANT TO REVIEW SOME OF THE EVIDENCE?
DO YOU HAVE THE TRUTH?
I KNOW...

I HAVE NO PLAN.
I DON'T HAVE A GRASP OF THAT TRUTH.
SO IN ORDER TO DENY BRIKA'S TRUTH I HAVE TO CONSTRUCT MY OWN TRUTH.
IF SHE HADN'T JUMPED IN, IT WOULD BE OVER NOW.
DIANOR IS SAVING ME NOW.
THE TRUTH THAT CAN'T BE FOUND BEFORE THAT DEADLINE CAN NEVER BECOME THE REAL TRUTH.
HOWEVER ALL COURTS IMPOSE LIMITS ON THE SEARCH FOR THE TRUTH
ALL WOUNDS CAN BE HEALED OVER TIME AND EVERY TRUTH CAN BE UNCOVERED IF YOU INVEST ENOUGH TIME.

YES, I KNOW!
AT THIS STAGE I CAN'T JUST SAY THAT THE TRUTH WILL BE FOUND EVENTUALLY.
AND IN THIS WORLD, THE TIME YOU ARE GIVEN TO EXPOSE THE TRUTH...
ENDS EXACTLY AT MIDNIGHT.
THE POLICE WON'T ARRIVE.
AH, THE TRUTH WON'T BE DISCOVERED!
THE TRUTH WILL BE DECIDED NOW!
BATTLER ...

I WILL BE THE ONE TO KILL YOU. I WANT TO KEEP THIS PROMISE.
YET, NOW...
I HAVE...
NO PLAN.
THAT'S FINE
TRUTH DOESN'T EXIST IN THIS WORLD. IT'S SOMETHING MADE UP AFTERWARDS.
THE REAL TRUTH DOESN'T EXIST ANYWHERE.

AS YOU PLEASE, GLORIOUS LADY BERN-KASTEL!
THE OLD PIECE AND THE USE-LESS PLAYER WILL LEAVE THE STAGE TOGETHER.
AND NOTHING IS BETTER THAN WATCHING HER EXECUTED RIGHT BEFORE HIS EYES!
IT'S NOT INTERESTING IF A KNIGHT DOESN'T SHOW UP ON THE EXECUTION OF THE PRINCESS
EXCEL-LENT SCE-NARIO, DLANOR!
COME, USHIROMIYA BATTLER!
I'M DLANOR A. KNOX, THE HEAD INQUISITOR OF HERESY.

GLUING SOME DUCT TAPE ISN'T ENOUGH TO CREATE A PERFECT ALIBI!
I'LL SHOW YOU MY COURAGE!
LET'S FIGHT TO THE DEATH!
SOMEONE COULD NOTICE THE SEAL AND PUT IT BACK AFTER BREAKING THROUGH!
CAN'T WE DOUBT THE CREDIBILITY OF ERIKA'S SEALS?
I CAN'T ACCEPT THEM AS ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN PROOF.
BUT A SEAL ISN'T THE SAME AS RED TRUTH. IT'S JUST A SIMPLE PIECE OF DUCT TAPE.
LAMBDADELTA ACCEPTED THEM AS PROOF OF ALIBI AND EASILY GAVE THE RED TRUTH.
ALL ERIKA'S REASONING IS BASED ON THE DUCT TAPE SEALS.

A-HA-HA-HA!
NOT A SCRATCH?
WHA...
DID YOU THINK IT WAS SIMPLE DUCT TAPE?
THIS DUCT TAPE HAS EXTREMELY HIGH GLUING POWER.
STILL IT'S EASY TO CUT WITH SCISSORS.
MOREOVER, I PUT MY PERSONAL SIGN THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO FORGE ON EACH PIECE OF DUCT TAPE I USED.
SO IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO BREAK IT UNNOTICED. AND IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO REATTACH IT TOO!
PERMISSION TO UNSHEATHE TH-
RED KEY.

MISS ERIKA'S SEALS CAN'T BE BROKEN OR TAMPERED WITH.
AS PROVED ABOVE. THE SEALS ARE GUARANTEED TO BE PERFECT
GRANTED!
BUT NOT EVA'S SEAL ON GENJI'S DOOR!
I ACCEPT ERIKA'S SEALS..
MISS ERIKA AND EVA AGREED ON THE USE OF THE SEALS THE NIGHT BEFORE.
EVA'S SEAL IS THE SAME AS ERIKA'S SEAL!

ERIKA SAID THAT SHE EXPLORED THE STORAGE OF REAGENTS IN GRANDFATHER'S STUDY, RIGHT?
WHAT IF THERE WAS A SOLVENT THERE?
…
…
THEN IT WAS POSSIBLE TO TEAR THE DUCT TAPE OFF THE DOOR WITHOUT LEAVING TRACES OF FINGER-NAILS.
ALLOW ME TO SPEAK.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO TEAR OFF THE SEALS WITHOUT LEAVING TRACES BY ANY MEANS.
THERE ARE NO TRACES ON ANY OF THE SEALS.
!!
IT'S PROVED THAT NO TRICKS COULD BE DONE WITH THE SEALS.
PLEASE REPEAT IT IN RED.

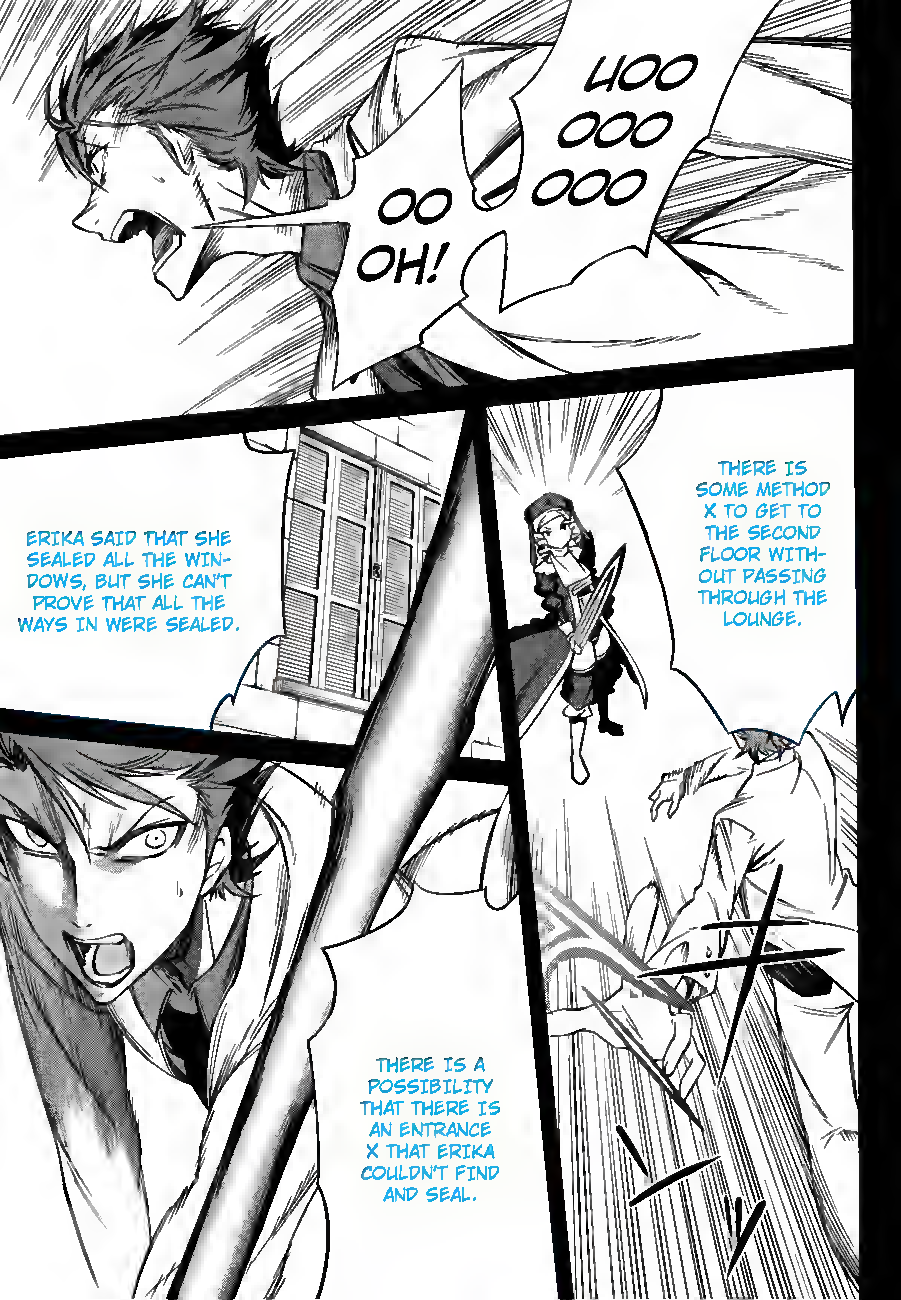
WITH PLEASURE.
NOBODY DID ANYTHING TO TOUCH THE SEALS OR TO DESTROY THEM.
GOD-DAMN
YOU STUCK THAT DUCT TAPE EVERYWHERE TO LEAVE YOUR TRACES!
IS THIS YOUR ONLY OBJECTION?
YOU PROMISED TO FIGHT ME WITH ALL YOU HAVE.
...
IS THERE A WAY TO WIN?

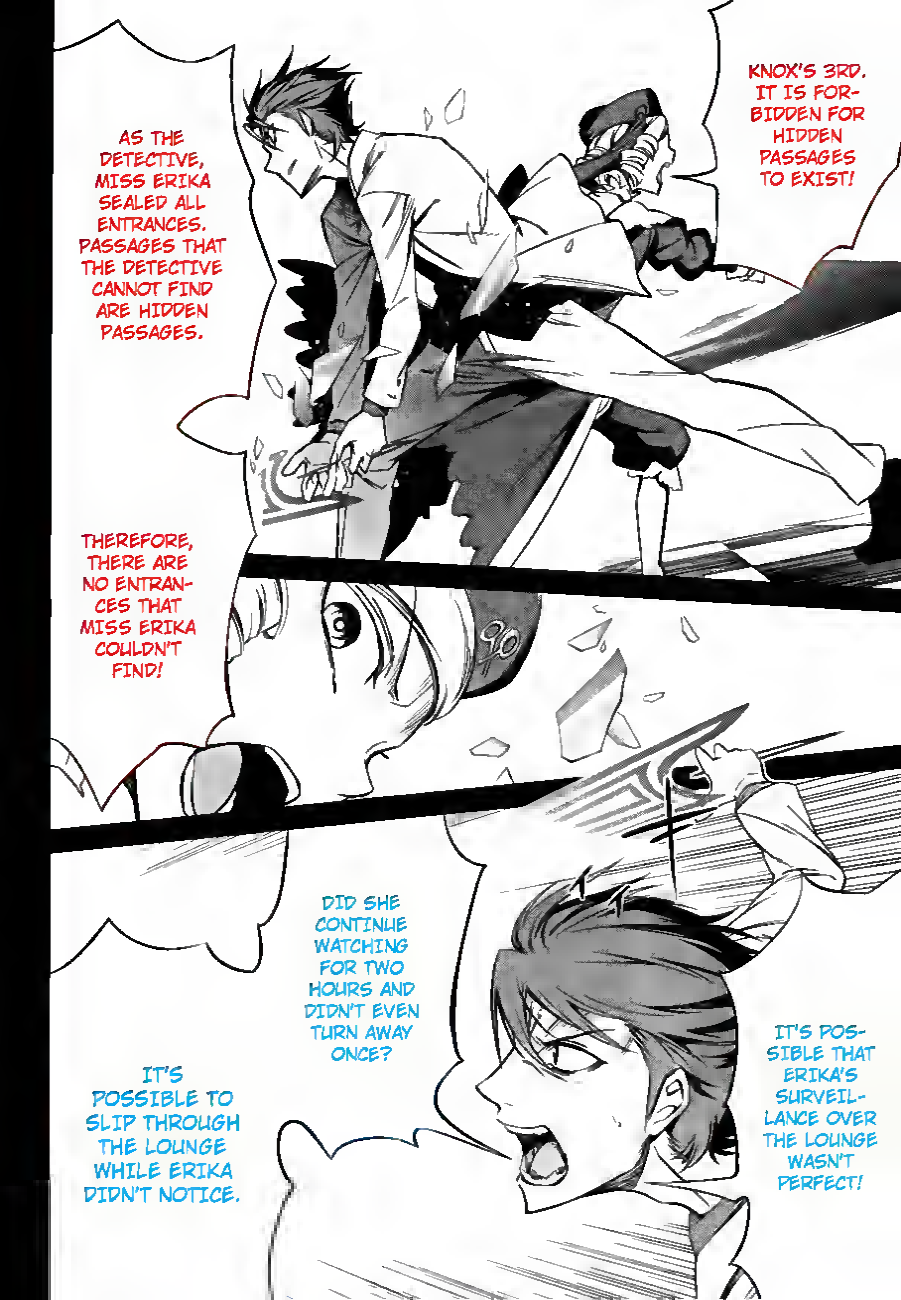
I PROMISED TO KILL YOU MYSELF.
I'VE ALREADY LOST. I'M PREPARED.
I FORGOT IT AT HOME. CAN I RETURN TO TAKE IT?
I WON'T ALLOW ANYONE DO IT INSTEAD OF ME.
I WON'T BREAK MY PROMISE!

LIAR.
WHAT?
I WON'T BELIEVE IN YOUR PROMISE AGAIN.

HOW DID I DECEIVE YOU?
WHAT DID I PROMISE TO YOU?
I FEEL LIKE I'M FALLING TO HELL WHEN I HEAR YOUR WORDS.
HA-HA-HA!
BEATO
KILL ME.
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA
HYA-HA-HA-HA-HA
HA-HA-HA

KILL ME, DLANOR! CUT ME IN TWO WITH YOUR RED BLADE!
BE
ATO...
...
HAHAHAHA
AHAHAHAHA
AHAHAHAHA
HAHAHAHAH
AHAHAHAHA
AHAHAHAHA


OOO
OOO
OOO
OH!
ERIKA SAID THAT SHE SEALED ALL THE WINDOWS, BUT SHE CAN'T PROVE THAT ALL THE WAYS IN WERE SEALED.
THERE IS SOME METHOD X TO GET TO THE SECOND FLOOR WITHOUT PASSING THROUGH THE LOUNGE.
THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THERE IS AN ENTRANCE X THAT ERIKA COULDN'T FIND AND SEAL.


KNOX'S 3RD. IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR HIDDEN PASSAGES TO EXIST!
AS THE DETECTIVE, MISS ERIKA SEALED ALL ENTRANCES. PASSAGES THAT THE DETECTIVE CANNOT FIND ARE HIDDEN PASSAGES.
THEREFORE, THERE ARE NO ENTRANCES THAT MISS ERIKA COULDN'T FIND!
DID SHE CONTINUE WATCHING FOR TWO HOURS AND DIDN'T EVEN TURN AWAY ONCE?
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT ERIKA'S SURVEILLANCE OVER THE LOUNGE WASN'T PERFECT!
IT'S POSSIBLE TO SLIP THROUGH THE LOUNGE WHILE ERIKA DIDN'T NOTICE.

LADY ERIKA'S SURVEILLANCE IN THE LOUNGE WAS PERFECT. THERE COULDN'T BE EVEN A ONE-SECOND LONG OPENING.
ALLOW ME TO SPEAK.
ALLOW ME TO SPEAK. ONLY ROSA WENT TO THE SECOND FLOOR THROUGH THE LOUNGE.
WAS THAT REALLY AUNT ROSA HERSELF?

THERE HAVE BEEN NO HINTS SUGGESTING THAT SOMEONE HAD DISGUISED THEMSELVES AS ROSA!
KNOX'S 10TH, IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR A CHARACTER TO DISGUISE THEMSELVES AS ANOTHER WITHOUT ANY CLUES!
SOMEBODY COULD DISGUISE AS AUNT ROSA.
FURTHERMORE, ERIKA HAS CONFIRMED THAT SHE WASN'T CARRYING A BAG LARGE ENOUGH TO HIDE A HUMAN INSIDE.
OR SHE COULD BE CARRYING A BIG BAG WHERE SOMEONE WAS HIDING!

THE REAL CULPRIT IS THE UNINVITED UNKNOWN PERSON X!
SOMEONE THREATED AUNT NATSUHI!
WHY DID YOU DECIDE THAT THERE IS NOBODY ON THE ISLAND EXCEPT US?
THERE IS THE REAL CULPRIT BESIDES US!
KNOX'S 1ST. IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR THE CULPRIT TO BE ANYONE NOT MENTIONED IN THE EARLY PART OF THE STORY!
...

I WAS THE CULPRIT... SO MAYBE I GAVE GEORGE AND THE OTHERS A SLOW-ACTING POISON TO MAKE THEM DIE AFTER 24.00. THEN SILENTLY SLIT THEIR THROATS WHEN I RETURNED AT 3.00 AM.
I COULD HAVE DONE IT SO QUIETLY THAT ERIKA WOULDN'T
KNOX'S 8TH: IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR THE CASE TO BE RESOLVED WITH CLUES THAT ARE NOT PRESENTED!
CAN YOU EVEN DENY FUTURE POSSIBILITIES LIKE IF A PIECE OF EVIDENCE X THAT ERIKA HASN'T DISCOVERED PROVES NATSUHI'S INNOCENCE?!
UNLESS SHE'S CAUGHT RED-HANDED, YOU SHOULD NEVER DENY THE POSSIBILITY THAT AUNT NATSUHI IS INNOCENT!
KNOX'S 8TH: IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR THE CASE TO BE RESOLVED WITH CLUES THAT ARE NOT PRESENTED!
THE TALE SHOULD BE CONSTRUCTED ONLY FROM IMPARTIAL TRUTHS!
THIS TALE IS FILLED WITH LOWLY LIES! THE TALE ITSELF HAS BECOME A TRAP TO CAPTURE NATSUHI!
KNOX'S 9TH: IT IS PERMITTED FOR OBSERVERS TO LET THEIR OWN CONCLUSIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS BE HEARD!
IF YOU WANT TO DENY THAT, TRY AND REPEAT IN RED THAT 'NONE OF THE CHARACTERS SHOWN IS THE CULPRIT'!
ANYWAYS THERE EXISTS A CULPRIT OTHER THAN AUNT NATSUHI!
KNOX'S 8TH: IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR ACCIDENT OR INTUITION TO BE EMPLOYED AS A DETECTIVE TECHNIQUE!
THAT TYPE OF MURDER CAN BE DELAYED SO EVEN WITH AN ALIBI...
MAYBE THEY WERE KILLED WITH POISON REMOTELY! HMM WITH A STRANGE DRUG THAT CAN MAKE A CUT APPEAR IN SOMEONE'S NECK WHEN THEY DIE!
KNOX'S 4TH: IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR UNKNOWN DRUGS OR HARD TO UNDERSTAND SCIENTIFIC DEVICES TO BE USED!
WHO CAN PROVE THAT ERIKA HERSELF HAS AN ALIBI?!
YOU SAY THAT EVERYONE EXCEPT AUNT NATSUHI HAS AN ALIBI?! YOU'RE FORGETTING ONE PERSON!
IT HAD SOME SECRET MECHANISM THAT STILL HASN'T BEEN DISCOVERED, AND
THERE'S A POSSIBILITY THAT THERE EXISTED A MURDER DEVICE X IN THE COUSINS' ROOM AND GENJI'S ROOM THAT MADE A REMOTE MURDER POSSIBLE!
KNOX'S 7TH: IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR THE DETECTIVE TO BE THE CULPRIT!
KNOX'S 8TH: IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR THE CASE TO BE RESOLVED WITH CLUES THAT ARE NOT PRESENTED!

EVERYONE COMMITTED SUICIDE!
THERE IS NO CULPRIT!
PLEASE, ALLOW ME TO SPEAK. ALL DEATHS WERE HOMICIDES
ERIKA DIDN'T PERSONALLY PERFORM AN AUTOPSY ON THE CORPSES RIGHT?!
IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR PEOPLE WHO AREN'T THE DETECTIVE TO MISTAKE AN AUTOPSY!
ALLOW ME TO SPEAK. KNOW THAT NONE OF THE CORPSES WOULD EVER LEAD TO A MISTAKEN AUTOPSY!
THEN MAYBE THERE WERE BODY DOUBLE CORPSES! THEY PREPARED CORPSES THAT CLOSELY RESEMBLED THE VICTIMS BEFOREHAND
KNOW THAT NO CORPSES EXIST EXCEPT THOSE OF CHARACTERS WHO HAVE APPEARED IN THE STORY
TH...
THEN...

HOW CAN YOU CLAIM THAT KRAUSS IS DEAD WITHOUT HIS CORPSE?
DOESN'T THAT VIOLATE KNOX'S SOMETHING OR WHATEVER?
KNOW THAT THE RED TRUTH IS SIMPLY TRUTH, AND THERE IS NO NEED TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE OR PROOF!
...
NO WAY...
NO ...

GODDAMN IT!
HI-HI-HI-HI-HI... HA-HA-HA-HA-HA
THAT'S ENOUGH, BATTLER.
AT THIS POINT, MY...
NO. OUR ENDLESS TORTURE WILL END.
LET'S FALL TO HELL TO-GETHER.

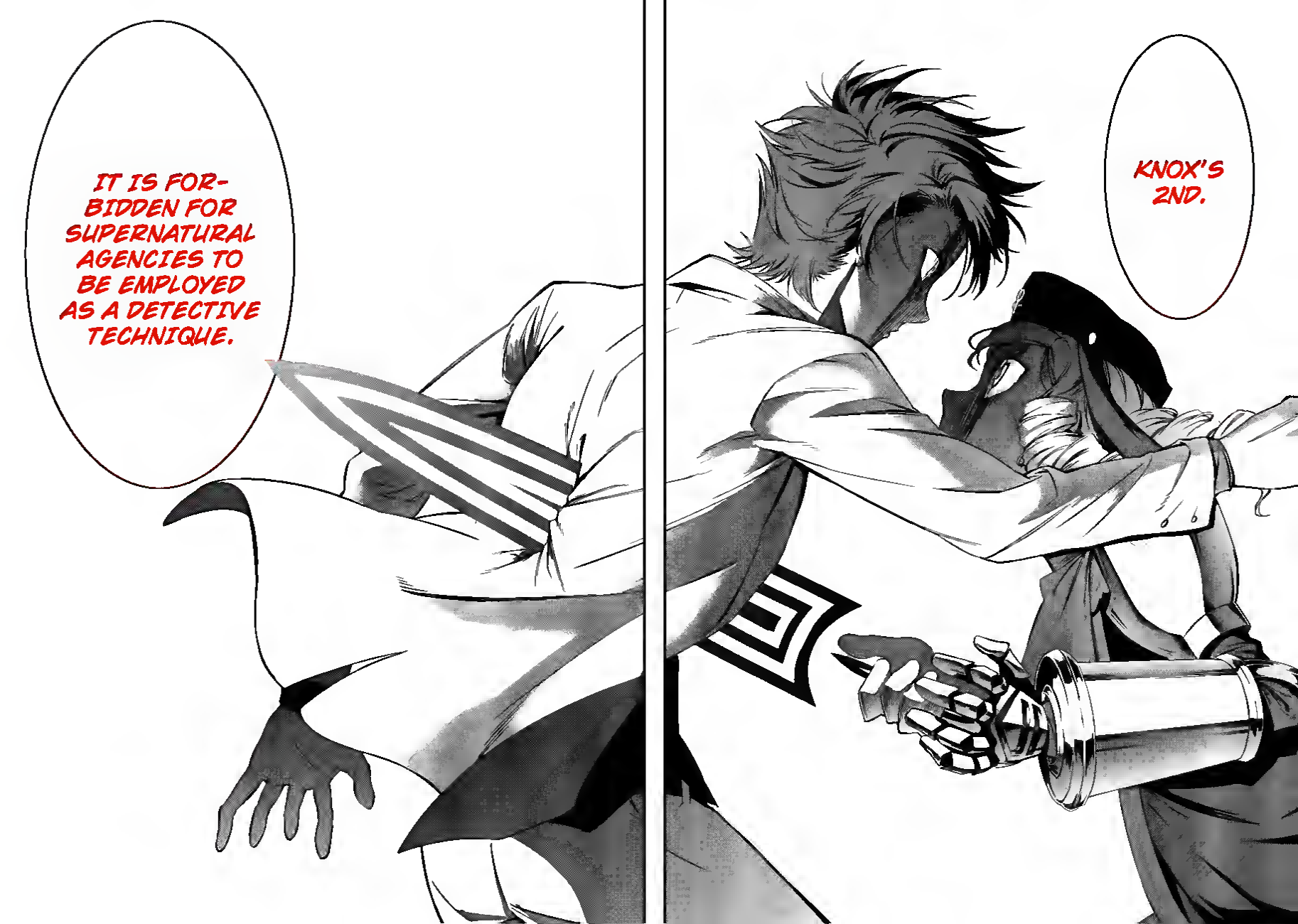
YOUR TRUTH DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE.
UGH
NO.
ONE STILL REMAINS.
IS IT THE TRUTH WHERE SOMEONE OTHER THAN NATSUHI IS THE CULPRIT?
NO, IT JUST PROVES THAT SHE IS INNOCENT.
I REALLY CAN'T SAY WHAT THE REAL TRUTH IS. STILL...
MAYBE I COULD SAVE BEATO THIS WAY.

I CAN SHOW THAT AUNT NATSUHI ISN'T THE CULPRIT.
BUT I CAN'T SHOW AN ALTERNATIVE VERSION OF THE TRUTH IF I DESTROY ERIKA'S TRUTH. THE CASE WILL FADE INTO DARKNESS AGAIN
THAT'S YOUR DOMAIN, ISN'T IT?
THAT IS, IF YOU CAN DO IT. HOWEVER...
IF YOU CAN'T CONSTRUCT AN ALTERNATIVE TRUTH, YOU AS A PLAYER WILL BE DEEMED USELESS AND INCOMPETENT, AND YOU'LL BE ERASED FROM THE GAMEBOARD FOREVER.
EVEN IF IT WON'T BE MYSELF
LOOKS LIKE I WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP MY PROMISE TO KILL YOU
BUT BEATO WILL STILL REMAIN.
AS LONG AS BEATO REMAINS, SHE CAN INSIST ON THE WITCH BEING THE CULPRIT, AND THE ALTERNATIVE WHERE NATSUHI IS INNOCENT WILL REMAIN.
AS LONG AS THIS GROUND EXISTS, SOMEONE WILL FIND THE TRUTH EVENTUALLY.

NO!
AT LEAST MAKE THIS WISH COME TRUE!
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING BESIDES THAT.
DON'T LEAVE ME BEHIND ALIVE. LET'S DISAPPEAR TOGETHER.
THAT'LL BE YOUR LAST TRIBUTE TO ME.
PLEASE.
IS THIS ALL?
IF YOU STILL HAVE POWER REMAINING, PLEASE AT LEAST SHOW IT IN THE VERY END.
USHIROMIYA BATTLER!

YES!
IT'S A TINY, BUT SHINING RED TRUTH.
MY LAST TRUMP, GIVEN BY VIRGILIA.
WILL DESTROY YOUR LOGIC!
TAKE THIS!
UOOOO OOOOO OOOOO OOOOO OOOOH

USHI-ROMIYA NATSUHI IS NOT THE CULPRIT!
RED TRUTH IS SIMPLY TRUTH, AND THERE IS NO NEED TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE OR PROOF!
NOW DLANOR WILL STAGGER!


IT IS FOR-
BIDDEN FOR
SUPERNATURAL
AGENCIES TO
BE EMPLOYED
AS A DETECTIVE
TECHNIQUE.
KNOX'S
2ND.

IN THIS COURT, PARTICIPANTS WHO ARE NOT WITCHES ARE REQUIRED TO PRESENT DEFINITE PROOFS WHEN THEY SAY SOMETHING IN RED.
ERIKA HAS BEEN FOLLOWING THIS RULE, RIGHT?
THIS IS MY... RED TRUTH.
YOUR RED TRUTH ISN'T SOMETHING YOU OBTAINED YOURSELF. IT'S A SUPERNATURAL TRUTH OBTAINED FROM A MAGICAL BEING.
IT'S NOT LOGIC. IT'S THE SAME AS A RANDOM GUESS.

IT'S THE TRUTH THAT AUNT NATSUHI IS INNOCENT WITHOUT ANY BASIS OR PROOF.
NO... I CAN'T.
TO PROCLAIM THIS RED TRUTH, YOU NEED TO BACK IT WITH SUBSTANTIAL PROOF. CAN YOU DO IT?
WHERE IS VIRGILIA?
THEN.. IF VIRGILIA SAY THIS HERSELF...
SEE—
THE REAL TRUTH IS FICKLE.
DOES THE REAL TRUTH EXIST?
IS IT EVEN NECESSARY?

BATTLER ...
IF IT DOESN'T EXIST, THE STORY PROCEEDS THIS WAY...
IF YOU CAN'T, THIS IS THE FAREWELL
BATTLER, GIVE PROOFS TO THE RED TRUTH YOU USED.

THIS IS THE END.
SORRY, BEATO...
DON'T SAY IT.
WITH THIS
THE COURT IS FINISHED.

Die the death
FINISHED

IT WAS EXCITING.
THANKS FOR BEING TOGETHER WITH ME UNTIL TODAY.
Sentence to death!
THIS WAS SUCH A BLOODY STORY

Joker 10 月号へつづく 9月22日(土)発売

REAL FANS SHOULD SUPPORT
UMINEKO BY BUYING THE MANGA!
WHAT DO YOU THINK, EVERYONE?

WTDND
GROUP
Translation: leopard
Cleaning: JJ
Typesetting: Michalv
http://wtdnd.wordpress.com/